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Trump chooses Bondi after Gaetz pulls out

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Day after U.S. court rap, Adani energy firms' stocks sink further

Amid the biggest single-day rally for the stock market in over five months on Friday, the BSE Sensex rose 2.54%, breaking a generally downward trajectory in recent weeks but it was a mixed bag for the embattled Adani Group firms' shares

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

A day after the Adani Group faced its worst market hammering since Hindenburg Research's allegations in early 2023, six group stocks, including those of flagship Adani Enterprises Ltd. (AEL), recorded a mild recovery on Friday but its energy businesses sank further into the red.

Adani Green Energy, which is at the centre of a fresh storm of bribery charges and securities fraud after an U.S. court's indictment of group promoter Gautam Adani and several associates, fell 8.2% on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) on top of a 19% drop the previous day.

The group's other energy-related firms – Adani Energy Solutions and Adani Power – also fell 6.9% and 3.23%, respectively.

This slide coincided with the sharpest single-day surge in the broader Nifty 50 index in over five months, as it bounced 2.4% higher to close at 23,907 points, after slipping to a fresh five-month low on Thursday. The 30-share BSE Sensex saw a slightly faster uptick of 2.54% to close at 79,117 points, breaking a generally downward trajectory at the bourses in recent weeks after the benchmark indices had hit all-time highs in late September.

Stocks of the Mr. Adani-helmed conglomerate's flagship, AEL, rose about 2.1% to a little over ₹2,229 per share, rising slower than benchmark indices after an over 23% collapse on Thursday. Adani Ports and SEZs moved up 2.1%, while Adani Total Gas closed 1.5% higher on the BSE. ACC and Ambuja Cement fared better, rising 3.3% and 3.8%, respectively.

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SHIELDING ADANI
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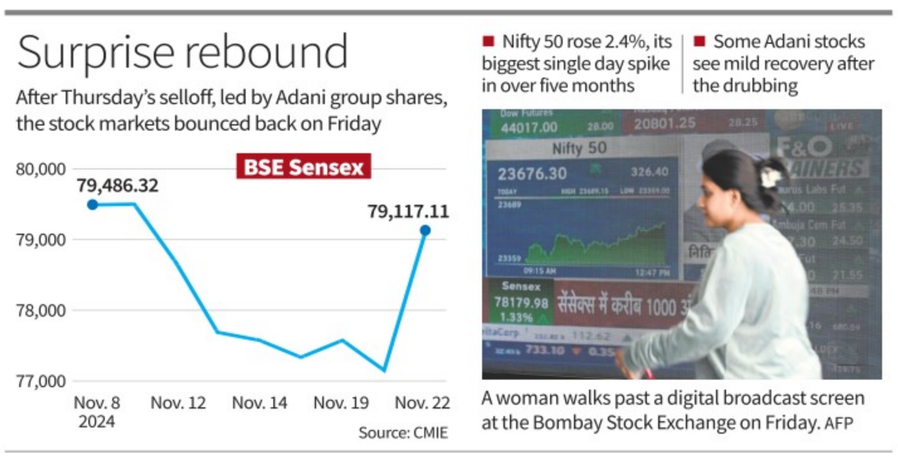

A woman walks past a digital broadcast screen at the Bombay Stock Exchange on Friday. AFP

'India-U.S. ties built on strong foundation'

WASHINGTON
Asserting that the relationship between India and the United States is built on a strong foundation, the White House on Thursday expressed confidence that it can navigate the ongoing crisis surrounding bribery charges against Indian billionaire and businessman Gautam Adani. » PAGE 11

Baku talks run into overtime amid row over climate finance

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Climate talks at Azerbaijan's Baku, scheduled to end on Friday, were extended by another day after the latest version of the draft agreement was deemed unacceptable by several developing countries.

The developed countries offered no more than $250 billion by 2035 as the New Collective Quantified Goal for Climate Finance (NCQG) despite acknowledging that at least $700 billion would be needed until 2030 to help developing countries.

Moreover, with no commitment that this would be disbursed to developing countries in affordable terms, several countries and civil society groups said that this was extremely inadequate to counter the challenges wreaked by climate change.

While closed-door meetings were still under way at Baku, sources told *The Hindu* that delegates representing the European Union, which comprises a bulk of the developed donor countries, deemed the ask of a trillion dollars a year "unacceptably high".

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Young activists take part in a protest during the climate conference in Baku. REUTERS

NEARBY

Byelection results today

BENGALURU
The mandate of the high-pitched byelections in the Assembly constituencies of Channapatna, Shiggaon, and Sandur in the State will be declared on Saturday.
» Page 6

Air India to set up training facility in city

BENGALURU
Air India is setting up a Basic Maintenance Training Organisation at the Bengaluru Airport City. It will offer an integrated 2+2 years Aircraft Maintenance Engineering programme certified by the DGCA. » Page 4

PROPERTYPLUS » PAGE 5

10 Maoists gunned down in Chhattisgarh

Press Trust of India
SUKMA

Ten Naxalites, including three women, were gunned down in an encounter with security personnel in Chhattisgarh's Sukma district on Friday, a senior police official said.

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai hailed the security forces and said the era of peace and progress had returned to the Bastar region.

The gunfight broke out in the morning in a forest near Bhandarpadar village in the jurisdiction of the Bhejji police station, where a joint team of security personnel was out on an anti-Naxalite operation, said Sundarraj P., Inspector General of Police (Bastar range). He said the personnel of the District Reserve Guard (DRG) and Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) launched the operation based on inputs from the Konta and Kistaram area committees about the presence of Maoists in the forested hills of Korajguda, Dantespuram, Nagaram and Bhandarpadar villages.

"Bodies of 10 Naxalites clad in uniform, have been recovered from the spot," he said. Besides, 12 weapons, including an INSAS rifle, an AK-47 rifle, a self-loading rifle and barrel grenade launchers, were also seized, he said.

Mr. Sai, in a statement, said the State government had a zero-tolerance policy towards Naxalism.

Strike force

Leading from the front: Skipper Jasprit Bumrah appeals successfully for the wicket of Steve Smith, one of his four victims, on the opening day of the first Test in Perth on Friday. Australia was 67 for seven in its first innings in reply to India's 150. AP (REPORT ON PAGE 15)

Maharashtra and Jharkhand results today; parties seek to tackle poaching

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI/RANCHI

With results in the Maharashtra and Jharkhand Assembly elections set to be declared on Saturday, all major political parties are making arrangements to swiftly transport their winning MLAs to the State capitals of Mumbai and Ranchi, to prevent any horse-trading or poaching of rival legislators in the run-up to government formation.

In Maharashtra, the ruling Mahayuti alliance and the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) have both directed their new MLAs to reach the capital by Saturday evening, to prevent defections and ensure swift decision-making if they see the opportunity to form the next government. The current Assembly's term ends on November 26, raising concerns that the President's Rule could be imposed if a new government is not formed by then.

While the BJP-led Mahayuti exudes confidence that it will retain power, the MVA is optimistic about a comeback fuelled by anti-incumbency sentiments and grassroots support.

Cocooning MLAs

The Mahayuti, which includes the Shiv Sena, led by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, and the Ajit Pawar-led Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), has laid out an elaborate plan to consolidate its strength. "We have appointed district incharges to manage logistics and ensure that MLAs remain with the alliance. We are also in touch with Independent and rebel candidates who have strong chances of winning," a BJP leader told *The Hindu*.

The MVA, comprising the Congress, Sharad Pawar's NCP (SP), and Uddhav Thackeray's Shiv Sena (UBT), has adopted similar measures. Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut confirmed arrangements to house all newly-elected MLAs together in Mumbai to prevent poaching. "We are confident of securing 160 seats. Some Independents have already shown interest in supporting us," Mr. Raut said.

In Jharkhand as well, sources said all parties have issued instructions that winning candidates must reach Ranchi soon after getting their certificates to avoid any possibility of poaching. On the eve of counting day, party workers were camping in tents near the counting centres.

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Ambedkar's VBA plans to back winning alliance

MUMBAI
A day before election results, Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi (VBA) chief Prakash Ambedkar said on Friday that his party would align with the side capable of forming the government. "If the VBA gets the numbers, we will support a party or alliance that can form the government in Maharashtra. We will choose power," he said on X.

Humanoid teacher makes learning fun

AI-powered Nova helps students of a govt. school in Kerala improve their communication skills

Navamy Sudhish
KOLLAM

Clad in a brick-red sari with her signature synthesised voice, Nova was introduced to the wide-eyed students of a government school in Punalur on November 14.

The artificial intelligence-powered humanoid is redefining the learning experience of 74 lower primary students, who are fascinated with the 'new teacher'.

They ask all kinds of questions, including those from their syllabus, and watch her in awe as the teacher answers them. "We have uploaded all their text books in PDF format so that the AI teacher can answer any question about their lessons. They also ask a lot of random doubts and the children are really curious to interact with Nova," says M.K. Bindu, headteacher. Nova is a polyglot and can speak English, Malayalam, Hindi and Arabic. "We teach Arabic as an additional language in school and that's why it too was included," she adds.

The humanoid was mainly designed to improve communication skills of children as they are encouraged to ask questions in all languages. "Also, the AI teacher helps to inculcate an interest in technology, which is very essential to prepare them for future. By introducing them to the latest developments in technology, they become capable to navigate this digital era more confidently," says the headteacher.

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Interactive session: Nova, an AI-powered humanoid, with the students of Government School in Punalur. C. SURESHKUMAR

MTech certificates from VTU to also show specialisation

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

All engineering colleges affiliated to Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) in Karnataka will issue MTech degree certificates mentioning not only the main branch of study, but also the specialisation, from this academic year. For example, a certificate will read as 'M.Tech in Mechanical Engineering (Specialisation in Machine Design)'. This will help students get better placements, VTU authorities said.

Several educational institutions have been signing memoranda of understanding (MoUs) with industries to focus more on skill development, including student apprenticeships. In addition, there is a huge demand in the job market for those who specialise in a specific subject. In this context, some private universities in the State are already offering certificates with specialisations mentioned. But VTU-affiliated colleges were only offering subject-based certificates.

To correct this, the VTU had sent a proposal to the All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 2

GETTY IMAGES

Can Oscar Piastri transcend the rear-gunner role and upend McLaren's hierarchy?

Although Lando Norris' title challenge is all but over, McLaren will not want its drivers to battle hard with the constructors' championship still on the line. But Piastri may no longer feel the need to be subservient to Norris — he will be keen to outscore his teammate in the remaining races to lay down a marker for next season

S. Dipak Ragav

When the Formula One bandwagon regroups in the land of glitz, glamour, and gambling in Las Vegas, ahead of the final set of triple-headers (Vegas, Qatar, and Abu Dhabi) to close out the 2024 season, both the titles are mathematically still up for grabs.

Max Verstappen leads Lando Norris by 62 points, with 86 points still in play. McLaren leads Ferrari by 36 points, with Red Bull a further 13 adrift. Verstappen, barring catastrophic non-finishes in at least two events, will likely enter the new year as a quadruple world champion.

The Dutchman's stunning drive in damp conditions in Brazil, where he took his eighth win, pretty much snuffed out any outside chance Norris might have had of fighting for the drivers' title.

Meaningful impact

While Verstappen and Norris have been the protagonists this season, there have been many impressive performers. One driver who has made a meaningful impact on the championship is the guy piloting the second McLaren – Oscar Piastri.

> We're lucky that we have two lions [Norris and Piastri] in the cage, but they get on well together. If a storm threatens, we try to contain it before it picks up speed
>
> **ZAK BROWN**
> McLaren Racing CEO

In his sophomore campaign, the Australian is already a two-time race winner and has played a vital role in getting McLaren within striking distance of its first constructors' title since 1998.

Often, teams have an informal No. 1 driver whom they back to lead the charge, like Verstappen for Red Bull or Charles Leclerc for Ferrari. Although Norris is the entrenched McLaren team leader, Piastri's performances have been a little too impressive for him to be boxed into an understudy role. The team can credibly claim to have the grid's best driver line-up. Come 2025, Piastri, with two years of experience, including wins and podiums, could well shake up the hierarchy at McLaren.

The 23-year-old's entry into the sport was shrouded in controversy when Alpine, where he was the reserve driver, unilaterally announced signing him for 2023 without agreeing a contract to replace the outgoing Fernando Alonso. In a stunning development, Piastri clarified a few hours later that he wouldn't drive for the team. Later, it emerged that he would take his compatriot Daniel Ricciardo's seat at McLaren.

Alpine approached the FIA's Contract Recognition Board, which ruled in McLaren's favour after the French team did not have a proper contract. But despite being legally correct, Piastri was unfairly vilified by many, including some team bosses, who questioned his loyalty or lack thereof for being part of the Alpine Academy and choosing to go elsewhere.

Colossal pressure

He debuted under colossal pressure, handling a McLaren that was woefully off the pace in the first half of 2023. However, as the car became quicker in the second half, Piastri found his footing and showed his true pace, nicking a few podiums and a sprint win in Qatar.

The former F3 and F2 champion – he clinched both titles as a rookie – was not far off Norris, especially in qualifying. A good barometer of drivers is how quick they are in the high-speed sections. Piastri, like his manager and former F1 driver Mark Webber, was mighty around such corners, especially in places like Silverstone.

While he was pretty quick over a single lap, he struggled in races due to poor tyre management, which boiled down to inexperience in managing the thermally sensitive Pirelli compounds. He has shown remarkable improvement in this area this year, and the results are there to see.

> Piastri's progress from last season has been really impressive. I have been surprised with how quickly he has improved in terms of the race management. I think that's the hardest part of Formula 1 now
>
> **KARUN CHANDHOK**
> TV pundit and former F1 driver

This year, McLaren took a big step forward at the Miami GP, which Norris won. But it was Piastri who was the lead McLaren at the event, running in second behind Verstappen, despite not having all the upgrades Norris had. He could have won the race if not for a safety car intervention after he had pitted. Norris managed to jump into the lead by boxing during the safety car.

Like his entry into F1, his first career win was not straightforward either. At the Hungarian GP, Piastri jumped pole-sitter Norris into the first corner and controlled the race until McLaren made a mess of things. In a bid to protect Norris, who was running second, from Verstappen, the team opted to pit the Brit ahead of race-leader Piastri at the second stop.

This allowed Norris to lead the race for the final stint as McLaren booby-trapped itself into a situation where Piastri was set to lose his first race win. After much cajoling and a few veiled threats from the pit wall, Norris moved aside to give Piastri his maiden win, but not before taking the sheen off it.

Former Indian F1 driver and TV pundit Karun Chandhok told *The Hindu* recently, "He [Piastri] has been amazing. His progress from last season has been really impressive. If you look at certain races, you look at Hungary last year, he really struggled. He was really struggling with tyre wear, and this year, he won.

"I have been surprised with how quickly he has improved in terms of the race management. I think that's the hardest part of Formula 1 now. The speed was never in doubt. Last year, he was pretty much as quick as Lando in the second half of the year. But it's the race management that I think [where] the experience counts."

Just as Piastri was building momentum – he scored the most points on the grid during a stretch of seven races – there was a belief that Norris had a chance to fight for the drivers' crown and needed the Aussie to play his rear-gunner.

Quick learner

At the Italian GP, Piastri showcased his wheel-to-wheel acumen, pulling off an audacious move on the opening lap to take the lead from Norris. But it allowed Leclerc to pass the latter and score a famous win for Ferrari on home soil on a better tyre strategy. In the next race in Baku, Piastri showed that he is a fast learner, getting the better of Leclerc by sending down a surprise late-breaking overtake on fresh tyres that helped him gain track position and take his second win.

McLaren then decided to prioritise Norris's title bid, and the Melburnian has dutifully played his role, including in Brazil, where he gave up a sprint win.

But now, with Norris' title challenge all but over, it will be interesting to see how Piastri closes the season out. While McLaren would not want its drivers to battle hard, considering the constructors' title is still on the line, Piastri may no longer feel the need to be subservient to Norris. The youngster will want to outscore his teammate in the remaining races to gain momentum ahead of next year and lay down a marker.

And if Piastri can take a similar step next year as he did this year, the Australian might prove to have a higher ceiling than Norris, which portends an exciting time for the sport.

STACKING UP

ATP Men's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Jannik Sinner	23	11,830	17
2	Alexander Zverev	27	7,915	21
3	Carlos Alcaraz	21	7,010	18
4	Taylor Fritz	27	5,100	22
5	Daniil Medvedev	28	5,030	17
6	Casper Ruud	25	4,255	25
7	Novak Djokovic	37	3,910	18
8	Andrey Rublev	27	3,760	27
9	Alex de Minaur	25	3,745	23
10	Grigor Dimitrov	33	3,350	19
11	Stefanos Tsitsipas	26	3,165	22
12	Tommy Paul	27	3,145	21
13	Holger Rune	21	3,025	23
14	Ugo Humbert	26	2,765	26
15	Jack Draper	22	2,685	22

Top Indians ▶

Sumit Nagal
Rank 93 ▼ No change

Ramkumar Ramanathan
Rank 308 ▲ 2 spots

WTA Women's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Aryna Sabalenka	26	9,416	21
2	Iga Swiatek	23	8,370	21
3	Coco Gauff	20	6,530	22
4	Jasmine Paolini	28	5,344	20
5	Qinwen Zheng	22	5,340	21
6	Elena Rybakina	25	5,171	20
7	Jessica Pegula	30	4,705	19
8	Emma Navarro	23	3,589	26
9	Daria Kasatkina	27	3,368	24
10	Barbora Krejcikova	28	3,214	17
11	Danielle Collins	30	3,178	19
12	Paula Badosa	27	2,908	20
13	Diana Shnaider	20	2,895	28
14	Anna Kalinskaya	25	2,743	20
15	Jelena Ostapenko	27	2,588	21

Top Indians ▶

Ankita Raina
Rank 299 ▲ 7 spots

Shrivalli Bhamidipaty
Rank 301 ▲ 1 spot

English Premier League Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Liverpool	11	9	1	1	21	6	15	28
2	Man. City	11	7	2	2	22	13	9	23
3	Chelsea	11	5	4	2	21	13	8	19
4	Arsenal	11	5	4	2	18	12	6	19
5	Nott. Forest	11	5	4	2	15	10	5	19
6	Brighton	11	5	4	2	19	15	4	19
7	Fulham	11	5	3	3	16	13	3	18
8	Newcastle	11	5	3	3	13	11	2	18
9	Aston Villa	11	5	3	3	17	17	0	18
10	Tottenham	11	5	1	5	23	13	10	16
11	Brentford	11	5	1	5	22	22	0	16
12	Bournemouth	11	4	3	4	15	15	0	15
13	Man. United	11	4	3	4	12	12	0	15
14	West Ham	11	3	3	5	13	19	-6	12
15	Leicester City	11	2	4	5	14	21	-7	10
16	Everton	11	2	4	5	10	17	-7	10
17	Ipswich Town	11	1	5	5	12	22	-10	8
18	Crystal Palace	11	1	4	6	8	15	-7	7
19	Wolves	11	1	3	7	16	27	-11	6
20	Southampton	11	1	1	9	7	21	-14	4

Italian Serie A Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Napoli	12	8	2	2	19	9	10	26
2	Atalanta	12	8	1	3	31	15	16	25
3	Fiorentina	12	7	4	1	25	10	15	25
4	Inter Milan	12	7	4	1	26	14	12	25
5	Lazio	12	8	1	3	25	14	11	25
6	Juventus	12	6	6	0	21	7	14	24
7	AC Milan	11	5	3	3	20	14	6	18
8	Bologna	11	4	6	1	15	13	2	18
9	Udinese	12	5	1	6	15	18	-3	16
10	Empoli	12	3	6	3	9	10	-1	15
11	Torino	12	4	2	6	15	18	-3	14
12	Roma	12	3	4	5	14	17	-3	13
13	Parma	12	2	6	4	16	18	-2	12
14	Verona	12	4	0	8	17	27	-10	12
15	Como	12	2	4	6	13	23	-10	10
16	Cagliari	12	2	4	6	12	22	-10	10
17	Genoa	12	2	4	6	9	22	-13	10
18	Lecce	12	2	3	7	5	21	-16	9
19	Monza	12	1	5	6	10	15	-5	8
20	Venezia	12	2	2	8	11	21	-10	8

Spanish LaLiga Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Barcelona	13	11	0	2	40	12	28	33
2	Real Madrid	12	8	3	1	25	11	14	27
3	Atletico Madrid	13	7	5	1	19	7	12	26
4	Villarreal	12	7	3	2	23	19	4	24
5	Osasuna	13	6	3	4	17	20	-3	21
6	Athletic Bilbao	13	5	5	3	19	13	6	20
7	Real Betis	13	5	5	3	14	12	2	20
8	Real Sociedad	13	5	3	5	11	10	1	18
9	Real Mallorca	13	5	3	5	10	10	0	18
10	Girona	13	5	3	5	16	17	-1	18
11	Celta Vigo	13	5	2	6	20	22	-2	17
12	Rayo Vallecano	12	4	4	4	13	13	0	16
13	Sevilla	13	4	3	6	12	18	-6	15
14	Leganes	13	3	5	5	13	16	-3	14
15	Alaves	13	4	1	8	14	22	-8	13
16	Las Palmas	13	3	3	7	16	22	-6	12
17	Getafe	13	1	7	5	8	11	-3	10
18	Espanyol	12	3	1	8	11	22	-11	10
19	Real Valladolid	13	2	3	8	10	25	-15	9
20	Valencia	11	1	4	6	8	17	-9	7

German Bundesliga Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Bayern	10	8	2	0	33	7	26	26
2	RB Leipzig	10	6	3	1	15	5	10	21
3	E. Frankfurt	10	6	2	2	26	16	10	20
4	Leverkusen	10	4	5	1	21	16	5	17
5	SC Freiburg	10	5	2	3	13	11	2	17
6	Union Berlin	10	4	4	2	9	8	1	16
7	Dortmund	10	5	1	4	18	18	0	16
8	Werder	10	4	3	3	17	21	-4	15
9	M'gladbach	10	4	2	4	15	14	1	14
10	Mainz	10	3	4	3	15	14	1	13
11	Stuttgart	10	3	4	3	19	19	0	13
12	Wolfsburg	10	3	3	4	19	18	1	12
13	FC Augsburg	10	3	3	4	13	20	-7	12
14	Heidenheim	10	3	1	6	13	15	-2	10
15	Hoffenheim	10	2	3	5	13	19	-6	9
16	St Pauli	10	2	2	6	7	12	-5	8
17	Holstein Kiel	10	1	2	7	12	25	-13	5
18	Bochum	10	0	2	8	10	30	-20	2

Test Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Joe Root	903	932
2	Kane Williamson	804	919
3	Harry Brook	778	829
4	Yashasvi Jaiswal	777	792
5	Steve Smith	757	947
6	Rishabh Pant	750	801
7	Daryl Mitchell	743	804
8	Usman Khawaja	728	847
9	Saud Shakeel	724	728
10	Marnus Labuschagne	720	937

Test Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Kagiso Rabada	872	902
2	Josh Hazlewood	847	864
3	Jasprit Bumrah	838	881
4	Pat Cummins	820	914
5	R. Ashwin	815	904
6	Ravindra Jadeja	802	899
7	Nathan Lyon	801	801
8	Prabath Jayasuriya	801	801
9	Noman Ali	759	759
10	Matt Henry	750	751

ODI Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Babar Azam	825	898
2	Rohit Sharma	765	882
3	Shubman Gill	763	847
4	Virat Kohli	746	909
5	Harry Tector	737	767
6	Daryl Mitchell	728	750
7	Rahmanullah Gurbaz	693	693
8	Pathum Nissanka	671	728
9	Shai Hope	665	802
10	Fakhar Zaman	662	784

ODI Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Shaheen Afridi	696	696
2	Rashid Khan	687	799
3	Keshav Maharaj	674	741
4	Kuldeep Yadav	665	760
5	Bernard Scholtz	654	659
6	Maheesh Theekshana	650	650
7	Jasprit Bumrah	645	838
8	Mohammed Siraj	643	736
9	Adam Zampa	635	698
10	Josh Hazlewood	634	727

T20I Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Travis Head	855	884
2	Philip Salt	828	860
3	Tilak Varma	806	806
4	Suryakumar Yadav	788	910
5	Babar Azam	742	896
6	Mohammad Rizwan	719	875
7	Jos Buttler	717	726
8	Yashasvi Jaiswal	706	779
9	Pathum Nissanka	672	698
10	Rahmanullah Gurbaz	636	748

T20I Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Adil Rashid	701	746
2	Wanindu Hasaranga	696	797
3	Adam Zampa	693	743
4	Akeal Hosein	689	695
5	Maheesh Theekshana	684	684
6	Gudakesh Motie	673	707
7	Rashid Khan	668	816
8	Ravi Bishnoi	666	699
9	Arshdeep Singh	656	656
10	Fazalhaq Farooqi	645	692

Study by IISc sheds new light on migratory pattern of cancer cells

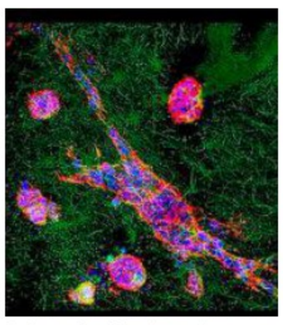
The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A new study from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) shows how inherent variations in a cancer cell and its interactions with its surroundings mould its migration.

The findings, published in *Biophysical Journal*, reveal that cancer cells seem to adapt their migratory pattern depending on the physical and biochemical characteristics of their surroundings, called the microenvironment.

"The spread of tumour from the primary cancer site to distant organs, called metastasis, has puzzled scientists for many years - they are only now beginning to pinpoint triggers and mechanisms that drive this process," IISc said.

The researchers studied two types of ovarian cancer cells - OVCAR-3, which has a well-structured polygonal shape, and SK-OV-3, which has a naturally elongated spindle shape. Both of these cells metastasise and invade tissues. By placing these cells on soft and stiff surfaces that mimic healthy and diseased tissues, the researchers observed how each type adapted its movement on different surfaces.



Cells navigating through a tissue-like environment showing diverse shapes and morphologies.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

On soft surfaces, similar to healthy tissue, both cell types moved slowly in random directions. But on stiff surfaces, which mimic the tough, scarred tissue around tumours, the cells are more deformable and respond differently.

"Based on previous literature, I expected stiffness to be an important factor in aggravating cancer cell migration. However, what I did not expect was that the epithelioid ovarian cancer cells (OVCAR-3) were more migratory than the mesenchymal cells (SK-OV-3) on stiffer matrices," said Madumitha Suresh, former MTech student at the Department of Bioengineering (BE) and first author of the study.

The researchers also observed a unique movement pattern in the OVCAR-3 cells, which they called slip. In most cells, the direction of movement aligns with the shape of the cell, with the cell's front leading the way. But when the OVCAR-3 cells moved on stiff surfaces, this alignment broke down.

"Their movement became less coordinated with their shape, almost as if they were sliding or slipping instead of moving in a straight line. Motivated by these unexpected results, the researchers sought to understand the process using quantitative approaches," IISc said.

City police seize narcotics worth ₹6.5 cr., including 318 kg of ganja

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a major drug seizure, the Bengaluru City Police seized narcotics worth ₹6.5 crore, including 318 kg of marijuana, and arrested five persons in two different cases, recently.

City Police Commissioner B. Dayananda said the city police had stepped up their vigil on the peddling of narcotics in the city ahead of New Year celebrations. "Usually, narcotics trade goes up at this time of the year and we are prepared to crack down," he said, adding as part of this special drive the city police had seized large amounts of ganja and synthetic drugs worth several crores.

The Govindapura police seized 318 kg of ganja and arrested three persons. The police also seized a car from the peddlers. According to the police, the accused are Acchu Santosh, 28, Zameer Khan, 29, and his spouse Reshma, 28, all from Kerala. The accused Santosh has multiple cases in Kerala and is wanted by the Kerala police.

The police said the trio were selling ganja at HRBR Layout in the city, keeping it in a plastic bag. As soon as the police received a tip-off from informants about this, the team arrested them.

Meanwhile, Central Crime Branch (CCB) sleuths arrested two foreign nationals for allegedly peddling drugs. The CCB police seized cocaine, MDMA crystals, and estasy pills worth ₹3 crore.

On November 20, the CCB received a tip-off that two Nigerian nationals were selling drugs staying in a rented house at Puttaswamy Layout in Soladevanahalli. The police raided the place and arrested the accused. The police seized 1.5 kg MDMA, 202 grams of cocaine, and 23 ecstasy tablets.

From Page One

MTech certificates to also show specialisation

The AICTE has also approved the new certificate issuance model for postgraduate programmes.

"This format is to be uniformly adopted across all institutions offering PG programmes under the purview of the AICTE, ensuring consistency and clarity in the representation of qualifications. It will serve as a standard for all MTech degrees, with the main branch of engineering clearly mentioned, followed by the specialisation," reads the order.

"To provide more job opportunities to students, we have allowed specialisation from the second semester. In the first semester of MTech, students study common subjects related to the respective branch. From the second semester, students can also specialise on research topics in collaboration with industry. Their certificates will reflect the same now," said S. Vidyashankar, Vice-Chancellor, VTU.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public are notified that my client **D VENKATESH** Residing at No. 85/86, 8th Main, 21st Cross, N.S Palya, BTM 2nd Stage Bangalore South 560076, My client lost the Page No. 9 and 10, in Original Property Documents while travelling near N.S.Palya, Bangalore, Dated 13/11/2024, around 12:13 PM to 04:49 PM Document bearing document No.ANK-1-15535-2003-04, A Police complaint in this regard was also lodged with Jurisdictional Police/Bangalore City vide Lost Report No.1346210/2024 dated 21/11/2024. It is hereby requested that if any person/s comes across or finds the same, he/she/they are requested to hand over the same to the below mentioned address and they will be compensated accordingly.

If any person/s, firm, company, institution or organization has any claim are holding the afore mentioned document, they may contact the undersigned in writing within **7 days** from the date of this notice failing which it will be presumed that there are no claims.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the converted residential immovable property bearing **Site No. 660** in **'NISARGA' LAYOUT** situated at **Sy. No.24 of Harapanahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District,** measuring North to South 40'0" and East to West 30' 0" and bounded as follows:

East by : Site No. 659, West by :Site No. 661, North by : Site No. 621, South by : Road

Rashmi.R, B.A.L LL,B
M/s. Rashi Legal,
Advocates and Legal Consultants,
No.B2-1250/51, Manu Teja Towers, A.Dasarahalli, Magadi Main Road, Bangalore 560 079. M-9538178060

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tendering Tender Dated:12/11/2024
E-Tender[Two Stage Reverse Auction] on behalf of the President of India acting through Dy. Chief Engineer [Construction], West Central Railway, Khajuraho invites tenders for the following works. **Tender No.:** DY-CE-C-KURJ-07-2024, **Description of work:** Construction of 1 No. Road Over Bridge (ROB-Composite Girder) & 2 Nos. Road Over Bridges (ROB-RCC Box) including substructure, Superstructure, RE Wall construction in approach Road work and other miscellaneous works in Panna-Khajuraho section (Km 74.550-80.00 and Km 105.00-130.00) in connection with Panna-Khajuraho New BG Rail Line Project., **Approx cost of tender:** 32.66 Crore, **Earnest Money (Rs):**1783100.00, **Date of opening of tender:** 10.12.2024 15:00 hrs, **Completion period:** 15 months. The complete information of above E-Tender is available in website IREPS (www.ireps.gov.in) and also placed on the notice board of the office of Dy.CE/C/KURJ. Tenders other than in the form of e-bids shall not be accepted against above tenders.

Dy. CE[Construction], WCR, Khajuraho

स्वच्छ भारत अभियान
एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client propose to purchase the Schedule Property from **Sri. K.R. RAMPRAKASH,** aged about 67 years, S/o. Sri. K.S. Ramachandra Rao, Residing at No.95, Ratna Vilas Road, Basavanagudi, **BANGALORE -560004** and he represented to my client that he is the absolute owner of the Schedule Property described below with unrestricted rights of alienation over the same and no other person/s has/have any right, title, interest or claim of whatsoever over the same and the property is free from all encumbrances, charges, mortgage and lien and he has not entered into any Agreement for Sale or any other commitment in respect thereof.

Any person having any right, title, interest or whatsoever claim against the Schedule Property or having any objection of whatsoever nature to the proposed transaction may, within **15 DAYS** hereof, lodge with us his/her/their/its claim in writing in this behalf with the relevant documentary proof in support of such right, title, interest or claim or objection. If no such claim or objection is received within the said period, my client will presume that no person has any such claim and will proceed with the transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY:

The residential vacant **Site No.438,** situated in **Vajarahalli Village,** Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, layout formed by the **Bangalore City Co-operative Housing Society Ltd.,** presently the BBMP Ward No.198 assigned the Property with **E-PID No. 6595699435,** and the site measuring **on the East :60-0 feet, on the West: 60-0 feet and on the North :40-0 feet, on the South: 40-0 feet, totally measuring 2400 Sq.ft.** and bounded on**: East by : Site No.439, West by : Site No.437, North by : Road, South by : Site No.451.**

Srinivasa S.A., Advocate
No.79/B, 7th Main, 50 feet Road, BSK 1st Stage, Bangalore-560 050.
Mob: 9008003449
E-mail : srinilegals@gmail.com
Place : Bangalore Date : 23-11-2024

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.
Regd. Office: PSEB H.O. Building, The Mall, Patiala
Corporate Identification Number(CIN): U40109PB2010SGC033813
Contact No. 96461-18773

TENDER ENQUIRY NO.: QQ-2355/PO-P

Chief Purchase Officer/ MM, Central Purchase Organization, PSPCL, 2nd floor, Multistory Building, The Mall, Patiala, invites E-Tender for Procurement of 10,500 Nos. 3-Phase, 11KV, 75 Amp, Single Throw, Single Break GO Switches as per PSPCL specification no. QQ-2355/PSPCL/PO-P. For detailed NIT and tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 23.11.2024 onwards.

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

C-870/24 **76155/12/3661/2023/39364**

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Application Notification No. 565/STBA/11/2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites sealed applications for engagement of Station Ticket Booking Agents at the following Railway Station over Bengaluru Division of South Western Railway for issuing of unreserved/General Tickets through Unreserved Ticket System (UTS) on commission basis for the period as mentioned against the Station:

Sl.	Name of the Station	Station Code	Station Category	Period of contract
1	Malleshwaram	MWM	NSG-5	3 Years
2	Kolar	KQZ	NSG-6	
3	Gubbi	GBB		
4	Settihalli	SET		
5	Yeliyur	Y		

Last date and time of submission of Application : **from 10.00 hours to 15:00 hours of 24-12-2024**

For details log on: www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Bengaluru

PUB/587/AAS/PRB/SWR/2024-25
South Western Railway - SWR sw_railways SWRRLY southwesternrailway SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the General Public that my Client intends to purchase Immovable Vacant Residential Property bearing No.7, Form B Property Register Extract No.12-2-A/7, Sl.No.3348, formed out of Sy.No.12/2A, converted for Residential use vide Official Memorandum No.B.DIS.ALN.SR(S) 69/81-82, Dated-10-06-1982, issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, and Conversion Grant Certificate bearing No.ALN.SR.193/81-82, dated 17th July 1982 issued by Tahsildar, Bangalore South Taluk, situated at YELACHENAHALLI VILLAGE, KANAKANAGARA, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk,, coming under BBMP, measuring East to West -30 Ft, and North to South-(52-0+51-0)/2 Ft, in all measuring a total extent of 1545 Sq.ft bounded on East-No.8, West-No.6, North-Road, South-Pvt Property, by paying substantial amount to the seller Mr. ABDUL MUJEEB D, S/o. Abdul Majeed D, R/a No.64/65, 5th Main, Near Indian School, Kanakanagar, Yelachenahalli, J.P Nagar Post, Bengaluru-560 078 and the seller has lost previous original sale deed bearing No.222/83-84 and has lodged a police complain.

Any person/s/government body/financial institutions/bank/s having any right, title, claims, interest or objections in respect of the said Property shall register the same in writing with documentary proof with the undersigned subsisting his/her/its/their claims within Fifteen (15) Days from the date of publication of this Public Notice. If no valid objections are received within the stipulated time, it will be presumed that there are no claims/objections and my Client will then be free to conclude the transaction in respect of the said Property in My client's favor without any notice. Any objection thereafter will not be entertained.

ILAHI-BAKASH, SYED ILYAS, Advocates, LEGAL WRITES
No. 1, Ist Floor, LAKSHMI COMPLEX, No.450/14/1, 27th Cross, 10th Main, 4th Block, Jayanagar, BANGALORE – 560 011.

INNOVATE KARNATAKA — K-tech

Request for Proposal (RFP)

Tender No.: ITBTST/2024-25/SEE0019

Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society (KITS), Department of Electronics, IT, Bt and S&T intends **to Select an Industry Partner to Run and Implement K-tech Common Instrumentation Facilities (CIF) at Hubballi.** In this regard, KITS invites proposals from the qualified agencies in response to the Request for Proposal (RFP).

The interested agencies are required to download the electronic copy of the Request for Proposals and upload the proposal (in PDF format) on Karnataka Public Procurement Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in through the bidder's Digital Signature Centre (DSC).

Any notices/information related to this Request for Proposals in the future shall be available on https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only.

Refer to the Request for Proposal document for eligibility criteria and other conditions. The deadline for submission is on or before **09.12.2024 by 4.00 P.M.**

Sd/-
Managing Director
KITS

KARNATAKA INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY (KITS)
Department of Electronics, IT, BT and S&T, Government of Karnataka
BMTC Central Offices Building, TTMC 'B' Block, 4th Floor, Shanthinagar, KH Road, Bangalore-560027. India
Phone : 080-2223-1006 / 8, E-mail: kitsgok@karnataka.gov.in

DIPR/CP/3387/AKAR/2024-25

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Kengeri Division, R.R. Nagara Zone, BBMP Office Building, CA No-3, 1st Main Road, Outer Ring Road, Kommaghatta Road, Kengeri Upanagar, Bengaluru - 560 060

No: EE/KEN/TEND/13/2024-25 **Date: 22.11.2024**

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)

(Two Cover System) (Call-1)
(Through **GOK** KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only)

The Executive Engineer, Kengeri Division, BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for the Construction of works detailed in the table below.

Sl No.	Name of the works/Category
1.	Drilling and Commissioning of Borewells at Thippenahalli, Andrahalli, Hosahalli, Channanayakanapalya and Thigalarapalya SC/ST Populated Area in Ward No-26 Doddabidarakallu. (Others) **Approx. Value of Amount put to tender: ₹.50.85 Lakhs, EMD: ₹.1,02,000/-**
2.	Development of Roads and Drains at Thigalarapalya, Channanayakanapalya Colony SC/ST Poupulated Area in Ward No-26, Doddabidarakallu. (ST) **Approx. Value of Amount put to tender: ₹.50.83 Lakhs, EMD: ₹.51,000/-**
3.	Development of Roads and Drains at Hosahalli Colony, SC/ST Populated Area in Ward No-27, Lingadheeranahalli. (Others) **Approx. Value of Amount put to tender: ₹.83.89 Lakhs, EMD: ₹.1,68,000/-**
4.	Improvements of Roads, Drains and Construction of Culverts at Herohalli Colony in Ward No-28, Herohalli, (Others) **Approx.Value of Amount put to tender:₹.50.84 Lakhs, EMD: ₹.1,02,000/-**
5.	Improvements of Roads, Drains and Construction of Culverts at Ullala Upanagara and Ambedkar Nagara Surrounding Areas in Ward No-29, Ullala. (Others) **Approx. Value of Amount put to tender:₹.67.80 Lakhs, EMD: ₹.1,36,000/-**
6.	Construction of Anganawadi Building and Other Allied works at Bhovi Colony, Marriyappanapalya in Ward No-30, Nagadevanahalli. (SC) **Approx. Value of Amount put to tender:₹.50.83 Lakhs, EMD: ₹.51,000/-**
7.	Improvements of Roads, Drains and Construction of Culverts at Karumariyamma Badavane (Shivanapalya) Pattanagere and Kengeri Railway Station area (Harsha Layout) in Ward No-32 Kengeri (Others) **Approx. Value of Amount put to tender:₹.63.54 Lakhs, EMD: ₹.1,27,500/-**
	SINGLE COVER SYSTEM (CALL-1)
8.	Development of Roads and Drains at Thigalarapalya, Andrahalli Colony SC/ST Poupulated Area in Ward No-27, Lingadheeranahalli. (Others) **Approx. Value of Amount put to tender: ₹.23.72 Lakhs, EMD: ₹.47,500/-**
9.	Improvements of Roads, Drains and Construction of Culverts at Kengeri Kote Area in Ward No-31, Bandemutt (Others) **Approx. Value of Amount put to tender: ₹.42.36 Lakhs, EMD: ₹.85,000/-**
10.	Reconstruction of Culverts, Drains and Concrete Road at Bhovi Colony in Ward No-33 Hemmigepura (SC) **Approx.Value of Amount put to tender: ₹.21.17 Lakhs, EMD: ₹.25,000/-**
11.	Improvements of Roads, Drains and Construction of Culverts at Bhovi Colony and Srinivasapura in Ward No-33 Hemmigepura (Others) **Approx.Value of Amount put to tender: ₹.42.35 Lakhs, EMD: ₹.85,000/-**

Calendar of Events : (1) Tender documents can be downloaded through KPP portal from **28.11.2024**, **4:00** pm. (2) Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal on or before **05.12.2024** upto **4:00** pm. (3) Pre-Bid meeting on **02.12.2024** at **3:00** pm O/o Chief Engineer, Ideal Homes, Rajarajeswari Nagar Zone, Bengaluru - 98. (4) Last date & Time for Receipt of Tenders on **05.12.2024** upto **4:00** pm. (5) Opening of Bids on **07.12.2024** at **4:00** pm.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Kengeri Division

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE No. 30 UBL 2024-25 Dated : 14.11.2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Sl.	Name of the Work	Approx. Value
1	**Hubballi Division: Sub Work-I)** Track Maintenance in SSE/P.Way/Londa Jurisdiction for period of one Year. **Sub Work-II)** Boxing and profiling of ballast in Assistant Divisional Engineer/Belgavi sub division for a period of one year.	Rs. 3,43,98,551/-
2	**Hubballi Division: Sub Work-I)** Track Maintenance in SE/P.Way/Castlerock Jurisdiction for period of one Year. **Sub Work-II(a)** Ancillary works in Track Maintenance under SSE/P.Way/Castlerock Jurisdiction. **Sub Work-II(b)** Ancillary works in Track Maintenance under SSE/P.Way/Sanvordum Jurisdiction.	Rs. 3,91,30,013/-
3	**Hubballi Division:** Maintenance of track in SSE/P.Way/ Sanvordum Jurisdiction for period of One Year.	Rs. 1,46,08,791/-
4	**Hubballi Division:** Maintenance of track in SSE/P.Way/ Belgavi Jurisdiction for period of One Year	Rs. 1,82,73,806/-
5	**Hubballi Division:** Maintenance of track in SSE/P.Way/ Kudachi Jurisdiction for period of One Year	Rs. 1,84,55,771/-
6	**Hubballi Division:** Londa - Belagavi section Rebuilding of Br. No. 91 & 112 { UP Line } on account of ORN 3 with precast RCC segmental Boxes/Box pushing Desur-Belagavi Section.	Rs. 2,39,78,969/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs on 13-12-2024**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

PUB/583/AAS/PRB/SWR/2024-25 **Senior Divisional Engineer/Co-ordination, Hubballi**
South Western Railway - SWR sw_railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

Karnataka Building & Other Construction Workers Welfare Board
(Department of Labour)
Kalyana Suraksha Bhavana, ITI College Compound, Dairy Circle, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru-560029.
Ph: 080-29753354/56, E-mail: karbuildworkerswelfare@gmail.com

No.: KBOCWWB/TENDERS/2024-25 **Date: 22.11.2024**

e-Tender Notification

Following tenders are hereby invited by Karnataka Building and other Construction Workers Welfare Board from interested Agencies as per terms and conditions described in the Bid document for below mentioned.

Sl. No.	Name of tender
1	Empanelment of 2 Training Service providers for Recognition of Prior Learning + Bridge Course Training Program of Registered Construction Workers of the Karnataka Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board in Jurisdiction of ALC Davanagere Division, ALC Hubli Division and ALC Division-1, Bengaluru Division.
2	Establishment of 24x7 IT based response and Toll Free (Help Line) services at KBOCWWB Premises for the Labour Department and its various Boards and Societies in the State of Karnataka.

Tenders shall be submitted electronically through K.P.P. Portal **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** of the Government of Karnataka. Last date of submission of tenders (Sl. No. 1) is on **23.12.2024** up to **5.00 p.m.** and Last date of submission of tender (Sl. No. 2) is on **05.12.2024** up to **5:00 p.m.** For further details and information can be obtained from the Joint Secretary, KBOCWWB during office hours.

Sd/-
Joint Secretary,
KB&OCWWB

DIPR/CP/LC/3401/2024-25

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice

Divl. Rly. Manager, N.W.Rly. Bikaner for and on behalf of President of India invites open E-Tender for the following works **up to 15.00 hours on 12.12.2024** as below:- **Tender No. : 153 Name of work with its Location :** Anupgarh-Suratgarh-Lalgarh-Kolayat-Phalodi-TBR (Loop lines) 81.155 TKm under jurisdiction of Sr DEN/W/BKN. **Approx. Cost of Work :** Rs. 132052617.88 **Earnest Money :** Rs. 810300.00 **Tender No. : 154 Name of work with its Location :** Outsourcing of patrolmen for cold weather patrolling under jurisdiction of ADEN/Suratgarh. **Approx. Cost of Work :** Rs. 1568245.13 **Earnest Money :** Rs. 31400.00 **Tender No. : 155 Name of work with its Location :** Outsourcing of patrolmen for cold weather patrolling under jurisdiction of ADEN/Line/BKN. **Approx. Cost of Work :** Rs. 3087482.60 **Earnest Money :** Rs. 61800.00 **Tender No. : 156 Name of work with its Location :** Outsourcing of patrolmen for cold weather patrolling in the jurisdiction of ADEN/N.W.Rly- Sirsa. **Approx. Cost of Work :** Rs. 1764275.77 **Earnest Money :** Rs. 35300.00 **Tender No. : 157 Name of work with its Location :** Outsourcing of patrolmen for cold weather patrolling in the jurisdiction of ADEN/N.W.Rly-Bhiwani. **Approx. Cost of Work :** Rs. 1470229.81 **Earnest Money :** Rs. 29400.00 **Tender No. : 158 Name of work with its Location :** Provision of RCC box of size 2.4m x 1.2m in lieu of various pipe crossings in Hisar Bathinda & Bathinda- Birdhwal (Eastern corridor) in the jurisdiction of DEN/North & Sr.DEN/West under control of ADEN/HMH-I(66 no. Bridges). **Approx. Cost of Work :** Rs. 192296550.59 **Earnest Money :** Rs. 1111500.00 **Tender No. : 159 Name of work with its Location :** Improvement to Road surface at various LCs over Bikaner Division (59 no. Lcs). **Approx. Cost of Work :** Rs. 61845404.10 **Earnest Money :** Rs. 459200.00 **Note-** Other terms & conditions will be shown on the website www.ireps.gov.in.

1353-DR/24

Please join us on /NWRailways NWRailways_

Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre
(An Autonomous Body under Ministry of Mines, Govt. of India.)
Opp. Wadi Police Station. Amravati Road, Wadi Nagpur- 440 023.
www. jnarddc.gov.in

भर्ती सूचना / Recruitment Notice - JNARDDC

Advt. No. 44 / 2024 (November-2024)

JNARDDC, Nagpur a "Centre of Excellence" for research in the field of bauxite, alumina and aluminium invites applications from Indian

Post	No. of post & reservation status	Pay Matrix Level as per 7th CPC	Upper Age Limit (as on the date of issue of this advt.)	Essential Qualification and Experience
Section Officer (A/c & Admin)	One - UR	Level - 7 (Rs. 44,900 -1,42,400)	35 Years	• At least II class degree of a recognized university with 8 (eight) years experience relating to establishment / administration / accounts in reputed organizations (preferably in a research institute) in supervisory capacity; • Preference to persons with Diploma in Business Mgnt. / Personnel Mgnt.
Scientific Assistant-II	Two - UR	Level - 5 (Rs. 29,200 - 92,300)	30 years	• B.Sc. / Diploma in Engineering/Technology of three years duration or Equivalent; • Three years relevant experience
Lab Assistant	One - OBC	Level - 2 (Rs. 19,900 - 63,200)	28 Years	• SSC with ITI Trade Certificate/National Apprenticeship Certificate (NAC) O R • HSC (12th) Science (Physics/Chemistry/Maths should be one of the main subjects in 12th Science)

Applications are to be ***submitted online only.*** Detailed terms and conditions are available in the Centre's website www.jnarddc.gov.in under the sub-head Career. **Non-refundable** application fees is Rs.500/-. (SC/ST/PWD/Ex-Servicemen/Women candidates are exempted from payment of fees). The last date for submission of online applications is **21 days from the date of publication of this advertisement in Employment News.**

Sr. Administrative Officer

TATA STEEL CHESS INDIA

‘At his best, Gukesh plays only the best moves — just like a chess engine’

In this conversation, former World rapid chess champion Daniil Dubov describes why Gukesh’s style is so hard to explain as he looks ahead to the Indian’s title clash against Ding Liren. The 28-year-old Grandmaster also talks about his experience as Magnus Carlsen’s second, India’s rise and why the sport feels like it is at a tipping point

INTERVIEW

Daniil Dubov

P.K. Ajith Kumar

Daniil Dubov won the 2018 World Rapid Chess Championship against a field that included Magnus Carlsen and Hikaru Nakamura. The Russian prodigy, who became a Grandmaster at 14, has also worked as Carlsen’s second for two World Championship matches. Excerpts from an interview Dubov gave *The Hindu* at Kolkata, during the Tata Steel Chess India tournament:

You were Magnus Carlsen’s second for two World Championship matches, in 2018 and 2021. How do you look at the upcoming title match between Ding Liren and D. Gukesh?

This will be somewhat a strange experience for me, as I was part of the last three World title matches in different capacities. In 2018 and 2021, I worked as Magnus’ second. And at the last World Championship, I was commentating for the official broadcaster. But this time, I will be following the match from the couch. I want Gukesh and Ding to fight. I don’t want the match to be over with three games to go, or something like that. Yes, I think Gukesh is the favourite, but not to the extent some people seem to believe.

Why do you think Gukesh starts as the favourite? Is it because of his form and Ding’s lack of form?

Gukesh has been the better player over the last two years. Why wouldn’t he over the next two weeks? It has to be said that matches [a series of games] are generally different, and I think, sometimes, even when you are better, there are certain opponents who are probably not as good as you, but they are really tough to crack.

What do you like about Gukesh’s chess?

> When Magnus is playing, the move seems more human to me. That is, I can see the idea behind the moves... Gukesh is exactly the opposite

I like that when he is at his best, he plays only the best moves — just like a chess engine. He plays the way that is sort of difficult to explain. Very often he plays moves that have nothing in common. It is like there is no basic idea behind them, but they are all the best moves still. I mean that is the feeling that you normally get from the engine. Like, one move on that side, then another move on that side. I mean like five random moves, and then suddenly the engine is winning. That is the same with Gukesh.

When Magnus is playing, the move seems more human to me. That is, I can see the idea behind the moves. With Magnus, you always get the logic. Sometimes you guess all his moves, but still you lose. He makes it look simple. Gukesh is exactly the opposite.

We are going through some tipping point in chess history, I feel. If Gukesh becomes the World champion, my mind realises that it is well deserved — he is almost 2800 [in Elo rating] and beating everyone — and still my soul refuses to accept that this little boy is 18. Chess is getting younger.

Garry Kasparov was 22 when he won the World Championship.

Before that, Mikhail Tal was 23. Gukesh perfectly embodies everything that chess is going through.

How do you look back at your time with Carlsen as his second, for his matches against Fabiano Caruana and then Ian Nepomniachtchi?

Magnus had a team of four to five people, and we would basically have to prepare some opening ideas. I was one of the people responsible for making his openings better. I apparently was doing my job well, as I was invited for a second time. I was helping with openings that had been a part of my repertoire for many years, like the Catalan obviously. For the match against Caruana, the Sveshnikov and Rossolimo [variations in Sicilian Defence] were also coming from me. It kind of makes sense. Magnus wants to learn from the people who are doing it for their whole life.

How important do you think the role of the seconds is in a World title match?

I think seconds used to be way more important previously. Now we all have the same engines, and there is basically no room for, say, brain competition, you know. When I worked for Magnus, especially the first term, it used to be completely different. You could analyse a certain position for two weeks, and still you wouldn’t be sure if it is good or bad for you.

A few Russian players criticised you for helping Carlsen against Nepomniachtchi, a Russian. And you replied then that working with Carlsen would help you as a player because of which Russian chess could benefit.

Yes and only a couple of players [were critical], really. The rest were supporting me. I was glad to take up the offer from Magnus. There was no downside to it. You basically get paid for working in the best team on Planet Earth with the best player in history. I would be happy doing it for free.

And what did you learn from working with Carlsen?

I have learned a lot, but it is hard to specify, like I learned these five things. It was generally the way he looks at chess, the way he prepares or chooses openings... For the rest of the people, it is probably a bit more mysterious why he is playing this opening against a certain opponent, and then he plays another one against another guy. But I started to get his general take on chess, and the preparation... It is not that I agree on everything.

> There is this old saying about the Soviet Union that every random guy plays better chess than you when you come to the USSR. You can say the same about India now

How did you find playing at the Tata Steel Chess India tournament here in Kolkata, at the Dhono Dhanyo Auditorium, in front of capacity crowds?

It is always pleasant to see so many people in the audience. Sometimes it can cause some lack of comfort for players, but looking at the larger picture, I like it. It inspires me way more than prevents me from making a particular move.

It is not my first time in India, but it is my first time playing in India actually. It is impressive. There is this old saying about the Soviet Union that every random guy plays better than you when you come to the USSR. You can say the same about India now. It feels like everybody plays chess pretty well. Yes, India is like what the USSR used to be, chess-wise, that is.

Are you surprised by the speed with which Indian chess has moved ahead?

Not at all. I remember saying it aloud in Russia five or six years ago that India was going to sort of overtake us, and that their juniors would be better because I know the way they work and what conditions they are given to work. I was saying in Russia we either need to provide the same kind of conditions for our best juniors or we would be overtaken. So there is no surprise for me here. There is, of course, Vishy, first of all. His role has been very, very big.

Are you happy with the way your career has progressed, especially after winning the World Rapid Championship in 2018?

No. It could have been better. But when I was at my best, COVID happened. Then the war happened. I cannot play in events like the Olympiad, but that is fine, I have no worries. If people stop dying, I will be happy.

GAME THEORY

Three-figures in 20 overs: going big, quick

With the classical format starting to take over the cricket season, there’s one final bit of Twenty20I business to attend to. Sanju Samson and Tilak Varma have had an astonishing few games in the shortest format, accomplishing in them what many have taken much longer, sometimes entire careers, to achieve. They have zoomed up the ladder of batters with the most T20I hundreds (we are looking here only at players from the ICC’s full member countries). How far have they climbed?

GLENN MAXWELL

ROHIT SHARMA

SANJU SAMSON

TILAK VARMA

MOST T20I HUNDREDS (FULL MEMBER TEAMS ONLY)

Player	Country	Matches	Innings	100s	Innings per 100
Glenn Maxwell	Australia	116	106	5	21.2
Rohit Sharma	India	159	151	5	30.2
Suryakumar Yadav	India	78	74	4	18.5
Sanju Samson	India	37	33	3	11.0
Phil Salt	England	38	35	3	11.7
Colin Munro	New Zealand	65	62	3	20.7
Babar Azam	Pakistan	126	119	3	39.7
Tilak Varma	India	20	19	2	9.5
Josh Inglis	Australia	29	28	2	14.0
Rilee Rossouw	South Africa	29	27	2	13.5
Finn Allen	New Zealand	47	47	2	23.5
Evin Lewis	West Indies	61	60	2	30.0
K.L. Rahul	India	72	68	2	34.0
Brendon McCullum	New Zealand	71	70	2	35.0
Glenn Phillips	New Zealand	80	71	2	35.5
Chris Gayle	West Indies	79	75	2	37.5
Aaron Finch	Australia	103	103	2	51.5
David Miller	South Africa	129	113	2	56.5
Martin Guptill	New Zealand	122	118	2	59.0

SOURCE: ESPNCRICINFO

PICTURE THIS

GETTY IMAGES

Painting on ice

A skater performs at the gala exhibition during the NHK Trophy, which forms a part of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating, at the Yoyogi National Gymnasium in Tokyo.

The Grand Prix is a series of senior international figure skating competitions organised by the International Skating Union. The NHK Trophy, which began in 1979, was added to the Grand Prix series in 1995, the series’ inaugural year.

Exhibition galas — where top skaters from each discipline perform non-competitive programmes — form a significant part of figure skating, which is as much show business as sport. Indeed, exhibition galas often figure prominently in major competitions.

The sport of figure skating demands great skill: skaters routinely pull off a dizzying variety of pins, jumps, turns, lifts, throw jumps and spirals.

The term ‘figure skating’ comes from a segment of the competition, known as ‘compulsory figures’, in which skaters trace out figures, such as the figure 8, on the ice. This segment was a mandatory component of the singles discipline before being dropped in the 1990s.

This hotel management centre finds only a few takers from Karnataka

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Institute of Hotel Management Bangalore offers BSc and MSc in Hospitality and Hotel Administration and several diploma and short-term courses associated with hospitality. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The heart of Bengaluru, around the Vidhana Soudha, is home to several iconic educational institutions. But not many know that on the campus of Sri Jayachamarajendra Government Polytechnic sits the Institute of Hotel Management (IHM) Bangalore, a centre of excellence for hospitality and management which has been around for decades now.

The centre was first set up as Food Craft Institute in 1969 and became an IHM in 1983. IHM Bangalore is now an autonomous Institution under the Union Ministry of Tourism, offering BSc and MSc in Hospitality and Hotel Administration and several diploma and short-term courses associated with hospitality. The institute has recorded 100% placements and has been in the list of top five IHMs in the country for the last few years.

Despite these records, state-of-the-art equipment, restaurants and bakeries, labs and even an adjoining hotel, where students can hone their skills, the institute does not get enough students from Karnataka. As of 2024, there are 253 BSc, five MSc, and 24 diploma students studying in IHM Bangalore. Very few of them are from Karnataka.

"Students have to take the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) to join IHM Bangalore. We get the most students from Punjab, Delhi, and from Kerala. Somehow, we are not getting too many students from Karnataka. In fact our fee is also lower than private colleges. We take around ₹1 lakh per year," said Venkatesan Dhattareyan, Regional Director (South), Tourism, and Principal in-charge of IHM Bangalore.

The faculty members of the institute attributed this to the non-acceptance of hotel management as an employable course by parents in Karnataka. "Parents have to accept that this is a course which has great career opportunities even beyond food. They do not know much about those options. Our students have had careers in facility management, customer relationships, and interior decoration and many more," said Mr. Dhattareyan.

The faculty also recalled instances when they trained staff at resorts in Sakleshpur where there were barely any members from Karnataka. "The hospitality industry is currently booming in Karnataka but there is a dearth of manpower as students are not doing these courses. There is huge potential for tourism in tier-2 cities, but the services need to be streamed up. We want to fill this gap," said Pramod Naick, Head of Department, at IIH Bangalore.

Apart from promotion on social media, the institute has also visited various districts in Karnataka for their programmes and to create awareness. "Wherever we go, we are creating awareness and distributing pamphlets in Kannada," said Anjali Gopalakrishnan, senior lecturer and social media coordinator, IHM Bangalore.

After complaints, BBMP devises system to help citizens find draft e-khata

Many property owners have complained they are unable to find the draft as their property details are not popping up when their names are entered in the search column

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

Unable to find your property information while searching by typing the owner's name on the website to download draft e-khata? The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) says there are multiple reasons for the same, and has devised a redressal mechanism.

Property owners wishing to download the draft e-khata have to find basic property details by typing their names on this website either in Kannada or English.

But, many users are complaining that they are unable to find the draft as their property details are not popping up when their names are entered in the search column.

A majority of the owners are unable to find the details owing to an inability to type in the correct spelling, in Kannada or English.

The official said that about 80% of property owners fall in this bucket.

This can be resolved with a call to the helpdesk or visiting a BangaloreOne centre.

In these cases, the helpdesk personnel or data entry person at the centre finds the details in a mere two or three searches.

BBMP Special Commissioner (Revenue) Munish Moudgil, who is instrumental in devising this new system, told *The Hindu* that inheritance of property is also one of the reasons why details are not showing up. For instance, if a son has inherited the ancestral property from his father and the mutation was not done, then the son cannot find the draft in his name. In this case, the son should approach the Assistant Revenue Officer (ARO). After providing documents, the ARO will click on the inheritance option in the dropdown menu. Then mutation will be done electronically.

Another reason for people not being able to find details is pending mutation after purchase of property. If a person has bought a property and has not transferred the manual khata, he/she cannot find the property details. Then the person can find the details by entering the seller's name. Later, he/she has to approach the ARO who will electronically carry out the mutation process. If the person is not aware about searching through seller's name, then he/she can approach a centre, whose staff will do the same process, Mr. Moudgil said.

Mismatch is one more impediment. For example the name Sridevi is mentioned in the record book. But if a person types Shreedevi, it is a mismatch. Then the ARO clicks on the mismatch (in the dropdown menu) to resolve the issue.

Providing details about the above problems, Mr. Moudgil said about 30,000 property records are in the process of being digitised. The owners of these properties will not find digitised khata. If these cases are referred to the ARO, the reason will be known. Once these records are digitised, the owners can download the final e-khata.

The ARO has to resolve all these issues in 10 days once it is assigned to them electronically, failing which they will face action from the department, Mr. Moudgil added.

New numbers

- The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike has issued the revised help desk numbers for citizens to seek help in connection with e-khata

- Citizens can also visit BangaloreOne centres to secure the final e-khata. Service at the centres commenced on November 13
- The BBMP said those who wish to sell properties should secure this document on priority as e-khata is mandatory during registration of properties. Others do not have to rush to call the help desk numbers or visit BangaloreOne centres.

Zonal help desk nos.

- **Bommanahalli** 9480683182, 9480683712, 9480683695, 9480683191
- **Dasarahalli** 9480683710, 9480683711, 9480683197
- **Mahadevapura** 9480683718, 9480683720, 9480683205, 9480683520, 9480683512
- **East** 9480683203, 9480683716, 9480683512
- **West** 9480683653, 9480683204, 9480683524, 9480683651
- **South** 9480683638, 9480683179, 9480683521, 9480683648
- **R.R. Nagar** 9480683576, 9480683198, 9480683528, 9480683648
- **Yelahanka** 9480683645, 9480683516, 9480683649, 9480683651

To apply for e-khata, click here —www.bbmpeAasthi.karnataka.gov.in.

Migrant workers flag issues of water scarcity and flooding, among others

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Representatives from various migrant communities across Bengaluru shared their daily struggles and the impact of climate change on their living conditions and livelihoods. FILE PHOTO

Heat, water scarcity and flooding, inadequate housing, and lack of power supply were some of the issues flagged by migrant workers facing climate change in the city.

They were speaking at 'Voices of the Voiceless: Centring Informal Workers/Migrant Communites' Lived Experiences in the Climate Resilience Narrative and Actions', a convention held on Friday by Jan Sahas in collaboration with BBMP Climate Acton Cell.

The aim of the event was to amplify the voices of migrant communities who are disproportionately affected by climate change and to integrate their experiences into climate resilience strategies. Representatives from various migrant communities across the city shared their daily struggles and the impact of climate change on their living conditions and livelihoods.

Extreme weather events, inadequate housing, and limited access to resources that affect their work and quality of life were discussed during the meeting.

A book that researched migrant workers in Bengaluru, *Coping with Climate,* was also released during the event. The report provides insights into their living conditions, employment status, and how they are affected by climate-related issues.

"The book explores how extreme weather events are already impacting internal migrants. It discusses the various ways these communities are adapting to changes in their environment, highlighting both the challenges they face and the strategies they employ to cope. It also shares powerful narratives from internal migrants who are navigating the impacts of climate change. Their stories illustrate resilience and adaptability, showcasing how they confront and manage the difficulties posed by extreme weather conditions," said a press release by the organisers.

Honey trap: Gang held for extorting ₹2.25 crore from techie over 3 years

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Central Crime Branch (CCB) police in Bengaluru have arrested a gang of three, including a woman, for allegedly extorting ₹2.25 crore from a software employee over the past three years in a honey trap case. According to the police, the victim met the accused woman at a gym in R.T. Nagar in 2021.

They developed a friendship, which the gang later exploited. Claiming to possess a private photo of the victim, the gang began threatening him, stating that the image would be leaked to the public. Using this fear as leverage, they coerced the techie into paying them large sums of money.

The accused have been identified as Tabassum Begum, Anjem, and Abhishek, all natives of Udupi.

Over three years, the gang systematically extorted ₹2.25 crore from the victim. Unable to endure the harassment any longer, the victim recently approached the CCB police with a complaint, officials said.

Acting upon the complaint, the CCB police tracked down and arrested the three accused.

APPOINTMENT

Central Tribal University of AP
Vizianagaram - (A.P.) 535003

Recruitment Notification

Applications are invited from the prospective & eligible candidates for the post of Librarian in the pay Level 14 of 7th CPC. Visit University website www.ctuap.ac.in for qualifications, eligibility criteria and other details.

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Advt. No. CTUAP/Advt-CL/2024/142 dt. 21/11/2024

Registrar (i/c)

Air India to set up BMTO in Bengaluru Airport City

It will offer an integrated 2+2 years Aircraft Maintenance Engineering programme

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Air India is setting up a Basic Maintenance Training Organisation (BMTO) at the Bengaluru Airport City. It will offer an integrated 2+2 years Aircraft Maintenance Engineering (AME) programme certified by the Directorate-General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

Air India has signed an agreement with Bengaluru Airport City Limited (BACL), a subsidiary of Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), to develop a built-to-suit facility for the AME programme that will feature modern classrooms, well-equipped laboratories for practical training, and a team of qualified trainers.

The purpose-built campus, spread over 86,000 sqft. in Bengaluru Airport City is expected to be operational by mid-2026.

Air India has signed an agreement with Bengaluru Airport City Ltd. to build a purpose-built campus of over 86,000 sqft. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The airline said the BMTO will be housed close to Air India's new 12-bay maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility that will be operational in early 2026.

The programme at the BMTO will include two years of in-classroom academic coursework followed by two years of practical on-job training at the MRO.

"The aim of the BMTO is to foster a workforce of skilled professionals for aircraft maintenance and engineering operations where students will receive hands-on experience and training, adhering to industry standards and Air India's specific requirements," the airline stated.

Till the new BMTO facility commences operations, Air India will implement a Cadet AME programme with other institutions across Bengaluru and Hyderabad to ensure continuity in its commitment towards AME education and workforce development as well as to support its requirements for aircraft maintenance engineers.

"The BMTO will establish a pipeline of skilled engineers trained to Air India standards. This facility and programme, combined with proximity to the Kempegowda International Airport, will enable our AME cadets to gain hands-on, real-world experience as part of their training," said Sunil Bhaskaran, director, Aviation Academy, Air India.

Two children found dead; mother critical

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Two children were found strangled to death and their mother found unconscious at their residence in Subramanyapura on Thursday night. She was being treated at a private hospital and her condition was said to be critical.

Rescued by husband

The police suspect that Mamata Sahoo, 24, killed Shubham, 7, and Siya, 3, and attempted to die by suicide, but was rescued by her husband Sunil Sahoo, an auto driver.

However, Mamata Sahoo has reportedly claimed that her husband Sunil killed the two children, said the police.

According to the police, Sunil returned home at 10 p.m. and discovered the three lying unconscious and rushed them to a private hospital.

Staff at the hospital alerted the police.

The children were declared brought dead and Mamata was being treated.

The couple had a marital issue and Mamata suspected her husband's fidelity, the police added.

Differing claims

"The man claims his wife killed their two children and tried to end her life. But she claims that he killed the two children. Investigation is on to ascertain what happened exactly," said Lokesh B. Jagalasar, Deputy Commissioner of Police (South), Bengaluru.

(If you are in distress or having suicidal tendencies, please reach out to these 24/7 helplines: KIRAN 1800-599-0019 or Arogya Sahayavani at 104 for help)

Western Ghats's king cobra officially named *Ophiophagus Kaalinga*

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre on Friday officially named the king cobra found in the Western Ghats as *Ophiophagus Kaalinga*.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Khandre said the name Kaalinga is deeply rooted in Kannada culture and is well known to everyone in Karnataka. "Officially naming the snake this is a moment of pride," he said.

He also emphasised the importance of raising awareness among the public about common misconceptions about snakes. "Many people do not know which snakes are venomous and which are not. There is a need to raise awareness about this," he said.

He added that the Forest Department is encouraging and supporting research teams, like that of herpetologist P. Gowri Shankar who has brought to the fore four species of the snake, of which Kaalinga is one.

He also highlighted that snakebite-related deaths are increasing in Karnataka. "Superstitions persist, as people often seek help from faith healers instead of taking proper medical treatment after a snakebite. While bites from non-venomous snakes may not be fatal, bites from venomous snakes can be life-threatening. Therefore, antivenom has been made available in all government hospitals to address this issue," he said.

Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre at a ceremony to officially name the king cobra in Bengaluru on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Timings
BENGALURU

SATURDAY, NOV. 23	
RISE 06:22	SET 17:50
RISE 00:01	SET 12:48
SUNDAY, NOV. 24	
RISE 06:22	SET 17:50
RISE 00:48	SET 13:23
MONDAY, NOV. 25	
RISE 06:23	SET 17:50
RISE 01:34	SET 13:57

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	22
Mysuru	31	17
Bengaluru	29	17

Bengaluru Today
27°C Morning will be cool with mist and haze. Day will be comfortable. Night will be pleasant. Dry weather to prevail

Bengaluru Tomorrow
28°C The weather will be dry. Morning will be cool with mist and haze. Day will be comfortable. Night also will be pleasant.

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THE HINDU
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'Complete roadworks in two months'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath directed officials to complete widening of Nelagadaranahalli Main Road within two months.

On Friday during an inspection of various ongoing works during his visit to Dasarahalli zone, Mr. Giri Nath highlighted the importance of expediting the projects.

Mr. Nath said Transferable Development Rights (TDR) have been issued to 16 of the 173 affected property owners.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that our client intends to purchase the property bearing BBMP **Khata No.1/33/2/5,** earlier being portion of **Survey Number 33/2** measuring **1 Acre 22 Guntas** (converted vide Official Memorandum No. ALN (NAY) SR:58/2007-08, dated 01.01.2009, issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District situated at **Chokkanahalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk** and bounded on:

East by : Land bearing Sy.No.36/2;
West by : Property bearing Sy.No.33/1;
North by : Road;
South by : Road.

from its owner **Mr.M.Somashekar, son of Mr.Muniraju.**

Persons having any right over the said property may lodge their objections/claim with documentary evidence within **7 days** from the date of this publication, to the undersigned.

K.V. Narendra & Associates
Advocates
No. 557, 2nd Floor, 9th 'A' Main, Indiranagar, Bangalore-560038
Call: 9945109229 / 8660848942.

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, CELINE Mary, D/o Augustine, R/a #7, 5th Cross, A K Colony, Domlur Layout, Bangalore-560071 have changed my name to Deepa vide affidavit dt: 21.11.2024 sworn before Notary Ramesh D Shah, B'luru.

EDUCATIONAL

GENERAL

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, PANKAJAM wife of Ex Sep Late Ravindran bearing No. 6353231F/ARPAN/LCC–3/NEPG, R/at No. 19, 1st Cross, B Muneshwara Layout, Manorayanapalya, Bangalore North, RT Nagar Post, Bangalore 560032 have changed my date of birth from 16–08–1944 to 22–05–1946 and my name have changed from PANGAJAKSHI to PANKAJAM vide affidavit dated 20–11–2024 sworn before advocate and notary public B.Seshagiri.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

I, MUNNI Tiwari W/o Late Vijay Tiwari residing at Indira Nagar 1, Bindukhatta Lalkuan , Lalkaun post, District Nainital, Uttarakhand-262402, That My son JC-338588P Rank Sub Kamalesh Chandra Tiwari is Currently working at Army Digital Mapping centre Bangalore, Hereby Declare that My actual Name is Munni Tiwari and not Munni Devi and date of birth is 01-01-1959 not 04-01-1957, vide affidavit Dated 27-07-2024, before Notary C. Santhosh, Bangalore-560033

LEGAL NOTICE

Form No. 18
Notice for appearance in Appeals Order 41 Rule 14 CPC, and Rules 1, 2, 4 and 11 of Chapter IV Karnataka High Court Rules
IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU
Notice to the R-3 & 4
vide order dated: 14.11.2024
M.S.A. No. 31/2022
D Sundara Rami Reddy ...Appellants
(By Sri Shanmukhappa and Ors for Kesvy and Co., - Advs)
-V/s-
Smt Girija and Ors., ...Respondents
(By Sri. K.R. Ramesh and Anr., - Advs for R-1)
TO: RESPONDENTS
R-3. SMT PAVITHRA D/o Late Chikkapillappa, Aged about 40 years
R-4. SMT SUMALATHA D/o Late Chikkapillappa, Aged about 36 years
R-3 & R4 are R/o Kannur Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru 560049.
Appeal from the Judgment and Decree dated 27.10.2021 passed in R.A. No. 42/2019 on the file of the VII Addl. District & Sessions Judge, Bengaluru Rural District, Bengaluru.
Notice is hereby given to you to appear in this court either in person or through Counsel duly instructed or through some one authorised by law, to act for you in the above appeal **on 13.12.2024 at 10.30 am** in case you intend to contest the appeal. If you fail to appear, the same will be dealt with, heard and decided in your absence.
Issued under my hand and the seal of this court, this the **14th Day of November 2024.**
By order of the Court
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT DIVISION, VIJAYAPUR.
I.F.T.No:EE/PWD/VJP/PB/5054&4059/2024-25/2671 Dated:21.11.2024
TIME EXTENSION FOR TENDER NOTIFICATION
(E-Procurement)
Ref : This offce tender Notification No. EE/PWD/VJP/PB/5054 & 4059/2024-25/ 2276 dt: 21-10-2024.
Tender was invited under Notification Cited at Ref(1). The tender dates are hereby postponed(Sl.No : 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,10,11,12,13,14,15,16) due to unavoidable reasons details are as below .the calendar events of tenders, dates are fixed as follows
1) Pre-Bid Meeting date: 22-11-2024 upto 11.00 AM
2) Last Date for Receipt of Tenders Date- 27-11-2024 upto 4.30 PM.
3) Opening of Technical Bid Date-28-11-2024 at 4.31 PM.
4) Opening of Financial Bid Date-29-11-2024 at 4.30 PM. On words
Clause-3 Conditions of Standard Bid Document may be seen in Departmental Website i.e "kppp.karnataka.gov.in" and for more information may contact help desk Bangalore (Phone No. 918025501216 & 918025501227) or office of the undersigned.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Vijayapur
DIPR/VIJAYAPURA/438/KSMCA/2024-25

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Office of the Executive Engineer (Lakes-RRN), Room No.308, 3rd Floor, Annex Building-3, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560 002
No: EE(Lakes-RRN)/Tend-05/2024-25 Date: 22.11.2024
INVITATION TO TENDER (ITT)
(Two Cover System)
Through GoK Kpp portal only, https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in
Tenders on item rate basis are invited by the undersigned for the works mentioned below from the registered contractors of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES or any State Government Organizations.

Sl. No.	Name of the work / Category
1)	**Annual Maintenance of Gattigerepalya(Sompura) Lake and H Gollahalli Lake.** Approx. Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs).: **30.00.** EMD (in Rs.): **60,000/-. (Others)**
2)	**Annual Maintenance of Sompura lake.** Approx. Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs).: **40.00.** EMD (in Rs.): **40,000/-. (ST)**
3)	**Annual Maintenance of Varahasandra lake and Chikkagowdanapalya Lake.** Approx. Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs).: **30.00.** EMD (in Rs.): **30,000/-. (SC)**
4)	**Annual Maintenance of Busegowdana Lake & Mylasandra (Sunnakallu palya) lake.** Approx. Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs).: **33.00.** EMD (in Rs.): **33,000/-. (ST)**
5)	**Annual Maintenance of Bayyapanapalya Kunte Lake and Jogikere Lake.** Approx. Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs).: **30.00.** EMD (in Rs.): **60,000/-. (Others)**
6)	**Annual Maintenance of Talghatapura Lake.** Approx. Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs).: **25.00.** EMD (in Rs.): **25,000/-. (SC)**
7)	**Annual Maintenance of Kodigehalli Lake and Kannali.** Approx. Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs).: **35.00.** EMD (in Rs.): **35,000/-. (SC)**
8)	**Annual Maintenance of Mallathahalli Lake and Nagarbhavi Lake.** Approx. Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs).: **40.00.** EMD (in Rs.): **80,000/-. (Others)**
9)	**Annual Maintenance of Kengeri Lake and Halagevaderahalli Lake.** Approx. Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs).: **40.00.** EMD (in Rs.): **80,000/-. (Others)**
10)	**Annual Maintenance of Bheemana Katte Lake & Pattanagere/Kenchenhalli Lake.** Approx. Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs).: **35.00.** EMD (in Rs.): **70,000/-. (Others)**
11)	**Annual Maintenance of Gandhinagar Hosakerehalli Lake & Bhimana Kuppe Lake.** Approx. Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs).: **50.00.** EMD (in Rs.): **1,00,000/-. (Others)**
12)	**Annual Maintenance of Ullala Lake and Soolikere Lake.** Approx. Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs).: **42.00.** EMD (in Rs.): **84,000/-. (Others)**
13)	**Annual Maintenance of Srigandadakaval lake and Vishwaneedum Lake.** Approx. Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs).: **30.00.** EMD (in Rs.): **30,000/-. (SC)**
14)	**Annual Maintenance of Mangammanahalli lake and Chikkabasthi Lake.** Approx. Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs).: **40.00.** EMD (in Rs.): **80,000/-. (Others)**
15)	**Annual Maintenance of Dubasipalaya lake (Valagerahalli).** Approx. Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs).: **30.00.** EMD (in Rs.): **60,000/-. (Others)**
16)	**Annual Maintenance of Konasandra Lake and Lingadeeranahalli-13 Lake.** Approx. Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs).: **40.00.** EMD (in Rs.): **80,000/-. (Others)**
17)	**Annual Maintenance of Lingadeeranahalli (Andrahalli) Lake and Herohalli Lake.** Approx. Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs).: **40.00.** EMD (in Rs.): **80,000/-. (Others)**
18)	**Annual Maintenance of Andrahalli Lake.** Approx. Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs).: **40.00.** EMD (in Rs.): **80,000/-. (Others)**

Calendar of events: 1. Available of Tender Documents: **23-11-2024 after 10.00 a.m..** 2. Last Date for receipt of Tenders: **06-12-2024 upto 4:00 p.m.** 3. Opening of Tender bid: **07-12-2024 at 4:30 p.m.**
Sd/-, Executive Engineer, (Lakes-RRN), BBMP.

DRUGS CONTROL DEPARTMENT
Drugs Testing Laboratory, Palace Road, Bengaluru-560 001.
Tel.No.: 080-22264788 / 744
Tender No: DCD/DTL/e-Tender/TIA/PP-02/2024-25 Date: 22.11.2024
SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Covery system) (Only Through KPP Portal only)
The Member Secretary, Tender Inviting Authority, Drugs Testing Laboratory, Bengaluru-560 001, has invited the following tender.
Design, Manufacture, Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Maintenance of Passenger Lift-02 Numbers to Drugs Testing Laboratory, Palace Road, Bengaluru-560 001. Tender No.DCD/2024-25/IND0005
Calendar of Events: 1) Last date and time for Tender Queries/ Clarifications: **28.11.2024, 5.30 p.m.** 2) Last date and time for Receipt of Tenders through e-Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in : **02.12.2024, 05:30 p.m.** 3) Date and time of opening the Technical Bid: **04.12.2024, 11.30 a.m.** 4) Date and time of opening of Financial Bid: **06.12.2024, 11.30 a.m.**
Detailed e-Tender Notification can be obtained from https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in
Further details can be obtained from the office of the Principal Scientific Officer, Drugs Testing Laboratory, Palace Road, Bengaluru - 560 001.
Sd/-
Member Secretary,
Tender Inviting Authority,
Drugs Testing Laboratory, Bengaluru-560001.
DIPR/CP/3391/MAA/24-25

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, (Lakes - South), Room No. 309, 3rd Floor, Annex Building-3, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002.
No: EE(Lakes-South)/Tend-04/2024-25 Date: 22-11-2024
INVITATION TO TENDER (ITT)
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)
Tenders on item rate basis are invited by the Executive Engineer (Lakes - South), BBMP, Bengaluru for the works mentioned below from the registered Contractors of BBMP or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES or any State Government Organizations.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work / Category
	(Single Cover System)
1	Maintenance of Kempambudhi Lake. **(Others) - Approximated Amount of Work (Rs. in Lakhs): 35.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 70,000/-**
2	Providing Security Cabins, Desilting of Wetland and Works at Kempambudhi Lake. **(SC) - Approximated Amount of Work (Rs. in Lakhs): 30.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 30,000/-**
3	Maintenance of Deepanjali Lake and Byrasandra Lake. **(Others) - Approximated Amount of Work (Rs. in Lakhs): 30.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 60,000/-**
4	Maintenance of Gowdanapalya Lake and Mestripalya Lake. **(Others) - Approximated Amount of Work (Rs. in Lakhs): 30.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 60,000/-**
	(Two Cover System)
5	Emergency Works and Annual Maintenance of Madiwala Lake. **(SC) - Approximated Amount of Work (Rs. in Lakhs): 98.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 98,000/-**

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender documents can be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 26-11-2024 after 10.00 Hours. 2)** Last Date for Receipt of Tenders: **02-12-2024 upto 16.00 Hours. 3)** Date of Opening of Tender Bid: **03-12-2024 at 16.30 Hours.** Further details can be had from the above office.
Sd/- Executive Engineer (Lakes - South), BBMP.

ಮಂಡ್ಯ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ–571 401
(Autonomous Medical Institution, Government of Karnataka)
(Fax & Phone: 08232-231001, 222086,
E-mail: mimsmandya@gmail.com)
Website: www.mimsmandya.org
ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
(ಜಿಒಕೆ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)
ಮಂಡ್ಯ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಗ್ರಂಥಾಲಯಕ್ಕೆ ಅವಶ್ಯವಿರುವ ಪುಸ್ತಕ ಮತ್ತು Journals ಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಗೂ ವ್ಯಾಸಂಗ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪಂಗಡದ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಪುಸ್ತಕಗಳನ್ನು ವಿತರಿಸುವ ಸಲುವಾಗಿ "ಖರೀದಿಸಲು ಪ್ರಕಾಶಕರು/ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಅರ್ಹ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ ದ್ವಿ–ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.
ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ : 01. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : No:MIMS/Books/13/2024-25 Date: 19.11.2024. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರ : ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಗ್ರಂಥಾಲಯಕ್ಕೆ ಅವಶ್ಯವಿರುವ ಪುಸ್ತಕಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭದ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22.11.2024 ರಿಂದ ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07.12.2024 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) : ರೂ.25.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು (ರೂ.ಇಪ್ಪತ್ತೈದು ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಮಾತ್ರ). ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. : 2%.
ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ : 02. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : No:MIMS/Sup/14/Journals/2024-25 Date: 07.11.2024. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರ : ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಗ್ರಂಥಾಲಯಕ್ಕೆ ಅವಶ್ಯವಿರುವ ಪುಸ್ತಕ Journal ಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಇ– ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭದ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 21.11.2024 ರಿಂದ ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 06.12.2024 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) : ರೂ.25.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು (ರೂ.ಇಪ್ಪತ್ತೈದು ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಮಾತ್ರ). ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. : 2%.
ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ : 03. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : No:MIMS/SCP- TSP/Books/15/2024-25. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರ : ಮಿಮ್ಸ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ವ್ಯಾಸಂಗ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪಂಗಡದ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಪುಸ್ತಕಗಳನ್ನು ವಿತರಿಸಲು ಪಡೆಯುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ 22.11.2024 ರಿಂದ 07.12.2024 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) : ರೂ.87,00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು (ರೂ.ಎಂಭತ್ತೇಳು ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಮಾತ್ರ). ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. : 2%.
ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ನಿಗದಿತ ಶುಲ್ಕ (ಹಿಂದಿರುಗಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ) ದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು ಇತರೆ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಜಿಒಕೆ ಇ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಸಿಸ್ಟಮ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ **https/kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಕಛೇರಿ ಕೆಲಸದ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ (ರಜಾ ದಿನಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ) ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.
ಸಹಿ/–ಮುಖ್ಯ ಆಡಳಿತಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು,
ಮಂಡ್ಯ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಸನಿ–ಮಂ/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿ&ಎ/460/2024–25

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THE HINDU

COVER

Financing urban infrastructure in India

Cities need to establish a robust set of revenue bases to meet increasing expenditures and recover the cost of public services

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

Gian P. Mathur

India is the second largest country in the world, with a population of over 1.4 billion, accounting for 17.7 % of the world population. In the last few decades, urban areas have become areas of intense mobility, socio-economic activity, and hope for many. To meet the demands of its fast-growing urban population, the government would need to invest ₹84,000 crores over the next 15 years, an average of ₹5,500 crores each year. A recent World Bank report, titled 'Financing India's urban infrastructure needs: Constraints to commercial financing and prospects for policy action', puts forth the urgent requirement to leverage more significant private and commercial investments to meet the emerging financial gaps.

Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in India are among the weakest in the world when it comes to their capacity to raise resources and achieve financial autonomy. The chronic fiscal ill-health owing to a continuous revenue deficit has hamstrung local governance, resulting in poor civic services and infrastructure.

Who provides finance to build cities?

Of the funds needed to finance capital investments from Indian cities continually, 48% is derived from State governments, 24% from the Central government and only 15% from the surplus of urban local bodies. The rest include public-private partnerships (PPP), commercial debt and loans from HUDCO (Housing and Urban Development Corporation). Much of the urban infrastructure in India is financed by tied intergovernmental fiscal transfers, that is vertical and horizontal transfers of finance for obtaining specific objectives within the nation. Financing is repayable through debt, private lending or PPP investments. These require a recurrent source of revenue to meet obligations, thus mandating raising adequate resources to fund financial processes. Only a few large cities can access institutional banks and loans for private debt.

Funding challenges and innovative solutions

A low service charge for municipal services directly undermines financial sustainability. The status quo goes to the extent that urban bodies cannot recover even operations and maintenance costs. In a related context, city agencies have been unable to expand their resource and funding base to support private financing even for important services such as water supply. In 2017, the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) was widely commended for raising ₹2 billion through municipal bonds. The money was to part-fund a 24x7 water supply project (total cost ₹29 billion) that would enable the ULB to provide potable water to its citizens equitably and uninterruptedly throughout the city. In order to raise bonds, PMC started with a double-entry accounting system and got itself credit-rated by CARE and India Ratings, receiving a rating of AA+ from both, stamping approval to the ULB's creditworthiness. The bond, which is a revenue bond with a 10-year tenure, carries a semi-annual interest rate of 7.59%.

A consistently weak fiscal performance of cities and low absorptive capacity for the execution of projects are some of the main reasons to deter private funding from entering the market. Drawing inferences from the statistics of the report, municipal corporations in large cities tend to under-invest in infrastructure with respect to their own intrinsic capacity, and large ULBs have low capital budget execution rates. The reason for this could be a weak ability to design, structure and execute projects both from an operational and financial perspective. In its assessment of the intergovernmental framework, the general consensus would be for ULBs to develop and maintain transparent financial practices irrespective of their relationship with the state government. For example, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation holds the reputation of being the country's richest civic body, with its 10-year commitments equalling that of many States. It makes around 18% of its income from property tax, among other sources. It also earns a regular income of ₹1,800 crore as interest per year from its 343 separate fixed deposit sources.

What can the design community do?

The World Bank report states that, as far as PPPs are concerned, revenue-sharing designs between the two entities could be more viable for private investors and need to account for risk-sharing or risk-transfer mechanisms. Thus, when problems arise during unanticipated demand shocks, projects typically get restructured to complete public ownership.

A deeper understanding of financial systems can extend the role of architects and planners beyond the design brief. Since these decisions are based on fiduciary interests, a functioning knowledge of the instruments of finance and how they operate can allow planners and architects to claim a stake in the decision-making process by being involved in structuring partnerships. As the most promising instrument for public participation, in a PPP, the government seeks to monetise its power to regulate development. For example, it can alter FSI/ FAR rules for its partners to promote affordable housing. With this, it can access financing and capital markets from the private sector and use it to get partnerships to provide saleable real estate. While the scale of operations might vary, the potential gains of a PPP rest squarely on the appropriate allocation of risks, rewards, and responsibilities among the various stakeholders. This implies that a PPP design's strength lies in the innovative strategy of combining stakeholders and assigning roles.

With strategic positioning, small-scale urban projects can improve creditworthiness and maintain a continuous absorptive capacity of the local body. In the urban landscape, for instance, the New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC) has innovatively introduced a PPP model to tackle sanitation needs. Under this model, NDMC allocates space for constructing Public Toilet Utilities (PTUs) and provides additional space for private sector revenue generation. The private sector is responsible for operating and maintaining the facility according to defined standards throughout the concession period, which includes separate facilities for men and women, differently-abled individuals, bank ATMs, sanitary pad vending machines, and water ATMs.

Using practical knowledge

In large-scale projects, the expertise required to undertake PPP projects is both diverse and specific – technical, finance, legal, market/demand, tax, accounting and insurance. The 'theoretical' knowledge required must also be complemented with practical deal-making experience in areas such as project management or contract negotiation.

Expertise is needed throughout the project lifecycle, from selection and definition to post-performance evaluation. The architecture and planning community can play a significant role in raising awareness and training professionals for a promising career in this field, potentially establishing a future business model.

The writer is Managing Director, GPM Architects and Planners.

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Upcoming Phase 3 metro line may dent real estate affordability in South Bengaluru

Parts of South Bengaluru such as Kanakapura Road, Electronic City, Bannerghatta Road, JP Nagar, and BTM Layout have seen a 10-15% rise in real estate prices since December 2023.

SOURCE : moneycontrol.com

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/160824/006973

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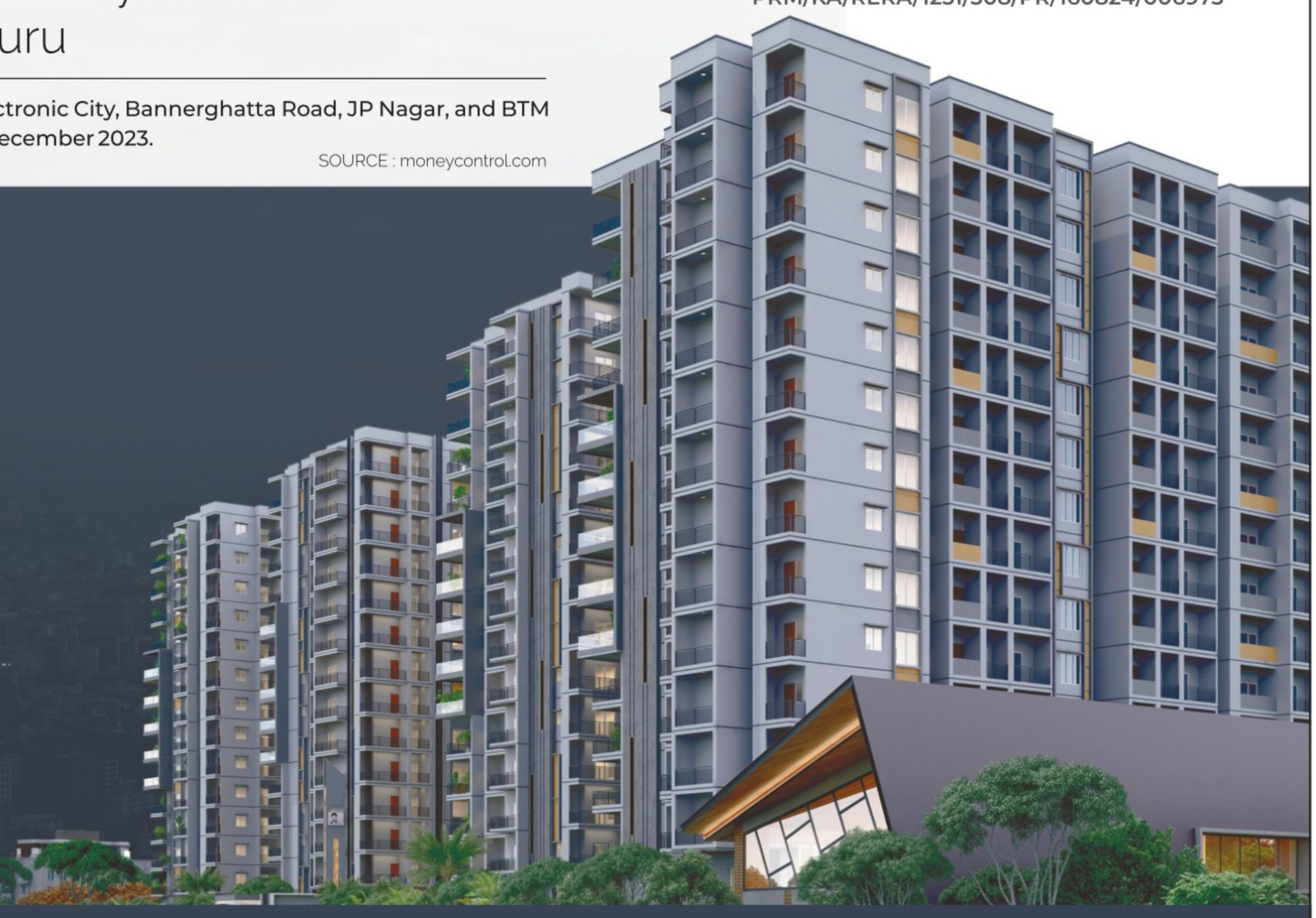

2, 3 & 4-BHK APARTMENTS FOR SALE IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/310/PR/150223/005721	PRM/KA/RERA/1250/304/PR/150224/006622	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/310/PR/210324/006724	PRM/KA/RERA/1250/301/PR/251024/007178	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/310/PR/151223/006489	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/309/PR/060923/006244
MYSORE ROAD NEAR CHALLAGHATTA METRO STN. ₹ 49.63 - 79.66 Lakhs*	WHITEFIELD 15 MINS. HOPEFARM METRO STN. ₹ 60.84 L - 1.07 Cr.*	SILKBOARD NEAR SINGASANDRA METRO STN. ₹ 71.36 L - 1.20 Cr*	YELAHANKA 5 MINS. RAJANUKUNTE ₹ 43.88 - 76.38 Lakhs*	BANASHANKARI OPP. NPS SCHOOL (3 & 4-BHK) ₹ 98.00 L - 1.74 Cr*	TUMKUR ROAD 10 MINS. MADAVARA METRO STN. ₹ 45.81 - 72.67 Lakhs*
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CREDAI BENGALURU

BG-BGE

Bypoll results: Not a number game, but one of party and individual prestige

Even though the results are inconsequential to the stability of the Congress government, it could impact multiple equations

Nagesh Prabhu
BENGALURU

The mandate of the high-pitched byelections in the Assembly constituencies of Channapatna, Shiggaon, and Sandur in Karnataka will be declared on Saturday and the outcome is significant on multiple counts, even though they are inconsequential to the stability of the Congress government.

The results are crucial for two former Chief Ministers – Basavaraj Bommai and H.D. Kumaraswamy – to retain their families' hold in Channapatna and Shiggaon, respectively. The results would also give the ruling dispensation an indication of the impact of the five guarantee schemes, and Minority Minister B.Z. Zameer Khan's alleged mishandling of waqf portfolio and his "racial" remarks against JD(S) leader Mr. Kumaraswamy.

The stakes are high for Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy D.K. Shivakumar to assert their authority in the administration amid ongoing charges of corruption hurled by the Opposition BJP.

The counting of votes in all the three Assembly constituencies in Karnataka where byelections were held on November 13 will be taken up on Saturday. FILE PHOTO

Pulling off victories in at least two constituencies would likely help the Chief Minister consolidate his position within the government and among his OBC cadre following. Defeats would give a further boost to a game of one-upmanship between Mr. Siddaramaiah and Mr. Shivakumar, who is aspiring to occupy the top post. The defeat would also strengthen the voice of those who are leading a chorus for a Cabinet reshuffle.

While the Opposition BJP and JD(S) alliance have said the mandate would be a referendum on the State government's "bad governance", the ruling party has maintained that it would be a message to the BJP for its "vindictive and communal politics". The mandate would set the tone for the winter session of the State legislature to be held next month in Belagavi.

On the other hand, victory in the three seats would not only enable the BJP-JD(S) alliance to step up its attack on the government for its alleged failures on many fronts but also boost the morale of the cadre under the leadership of BJP State unit president B.Y. Vijayendra. The disgruntled leaders within the saffron party would demand a change of the State BJP chief if the party sufferes a setback.

The results would decide the political future of Mr. Kumaraswamy's son, Nikhil Kumaraswamy, who is trying his luck in Channapatna this time after losing two elections. A victory in Channapatna would help five-time legislator and film actor C.P. Yogeshwar, who has returned to the Congress from the BJP, to re-establish his hold on his home turf after two bitter defeats against Mr. Kumaraswamy.

Keenly watched

The Channapatna constituency, which is in the Vokkaliga belt, has gained much attention due to the possible impact of the result on the influence of Mr. Shivakumar and Mr. Kumaraswamy. Former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda, who is in his nineties, too intensively campaigned for his grandson in the constituency.

It is a matter of prestige for Mr. Bommai, MP, to retain his hold in the Shiggaon constituency. His son, Bharath Bommai, is contesting against Yasir Ahmed Khan Pathan of the Congress.

In Sandur (ST) constituency, Annapurna, wife of party MP for Ballari E. Tukaram, is trying her luck against BJP candidate Bangaru Hanumantha. Former mining baron G. Janardhana Reddy, MLA, and BJP leaders extensively campaigned in this constituency to wrest the seat from the Congress.

'First round results will start trickling in by 9.45 a.m.'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Counting of votes in the three Assembly constituencies in Karnataka, where byelections were held on November 13, will start at 8 a.m. on Saturday. Manoj Kumar Meena, Chief Electoral Officer for Karnataka, said the first round results will start trickling in from 9.45 a.m. onwards.

Over 200 counting staff have been trained for the vote-counting process and deployed at the centres. They include 59 micro-observers, 66 counting supervisors, and 69 counting assistants. In Channapatna, counting will be held in three halls of the Government Engineering College in Ramanagara. While counting will be held in the Government Engineering College at Devagiri, Haveri, for Shiggaon, it will be taken up in the Government Polytechnic College, Ballari, for Sandur.

Maharashtra results: Karnataka Cong. makes standby arrangements

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

With the results of the closely fought elections to the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly to be declared on Saturday, the ruling Congress in Karnataka has been asked to make stand-by arrangements to shift winning leaders of the party to a resort/hotel in the State to prevent any poaching by rival parties.

Sources in the State Congress said the party high command has told KPCC president and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar to make plans to shift elected party leaders to Karnataka.

Chartered planes have been kept on stand-by to shift such leaders. Hotels/resorts too have been booked to accommodate them in Karnataka, sources said.

Meanwhile, the party's troubleshooter, Mr. Shivakumar, expressed confidence that the Congress alliance would come to power in Maharashtra.

The poll of exit polls has predicted the BJP-led coalition to secure 158 seats, crossing the halfway mark comfortably in Maharashtra. The Maha Vikas Aghadi coalition, which comprises Congress, Sharad Pawar-led NCP, and Uddhav Thackeray's Shiv Sena (UBT), is predicted to secure between 90-120 seats.

K-SET tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has announced that the Karnataka State Eligibility Test (K-SET) for degree college lecturer eligibility and the assistant professor recruitment exam for Raichur University will be held on Sunday. The K-SET, covering 41 subjects, is expected to be taken up by 1.05 lakh candidates across 252 centres in 12 districts.

The Raichur University recruitment exam has 2,000 candidates and it will be conducted only at three centres in Bengaluru, said KEA Executive Director H. Prasanna.

Siddaramaiah accuses Modi of protecting Adani

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of "protecting" industrialist Gautam Adani who has been indicted by a U.S. court on charges of fraud and bribery.

Mr. Siddaramaiah told mediapersons in Mysuru on Friday that though an arrest warrant has been issued against Mr. Adani, the Union government, headed by Mr. Modi, has taken no action and is protecting the industrialist.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said it is India's reputation which has been sullied in the world, and not only is the BJP supportive of Mr. Adani but is also defending his acts, and this could not be done without the approval of the Prime Minister.

Turning his guns on BJP MPs from Karnataka, Mr. Siddaramaiah said that let alone question the NABARD's decision, BJP leader Pralhad Joshi had even defended it.

BJP MPs flayed for remaining silent on NABARD's decision to slash funding for Karnataka

Siddaramaiah said though the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) had slashed the funding for the State by 58%, none of them have spoken out against this reduction nor have they discussed the issue with the Centre.

HDK's silence

He also expressed outrage over Union Minister and former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy being silent on the issue. "Why has the matter not been taken up with Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman who is a Rajya Sabha member from Karnataka?" questioned Mr. Siddaramaiah. The Chief Minister said that he had apprised Ms. Sitharaman of the fallout of the NABARD's decision to slash funding as it would hurt farmers. "Ms. Sitharaman said she will take up the issue with NABARD, but the delay in discussing the subject is inexplicable," he added.

'Let Centre start probe'

Meanwhile, in Bengaluru, when asked about BJP leaders challenging the Congress government to attach Mr. Adani's assets in Karnataka, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said, "Let the Union government initiate an inquiry and communicate to the State government to take action, then we will take suitable action here."

'We will file defamation case against BJP for false ad'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister and KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar has said that a complaint will be lodged against the BJP for "false advertisement" in Maharashtra on the Karnataka's guarantee schemes. He said the Chief Minister had already instructed officials to do so. "We will file a defamation case against them," he told reporters.

An Autonomous Institute of Government of Karnataka
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE MEDICAL COLLEGE & RESEARCH INSTITUTE, BENGALURU
Telephone: +91-8431186388, E-mail: sabvmcri@gmail.com
No: SABVMCRI/E-TENDER/MS/06/2024-25 Dated: 22-11-2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION

e-Tenders is invited for interested eligible firms in accordance with KTPP Act for **Supply of Drugs, Chemicals and Consumables to SABVMCRI and its Attached Hospitals, Bengaluru.**

1) Date of Commencement of Download of Tender Document is **from 22-11-2024. 2)** Last Date for Online Quires: **25-11-2024 upto 5.30 PM. 3)** Last Date and Time for Uploading of e-Tender in e-Procurement Portal: **29-11-2024 upto 5.30 PM. 4)** Date and Time of Online Opening of Technical Bids: **02-12-2024 at 10.30 AM.**

For further details search in **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and if any further details are required in this regard. Please contact the Director Cum Dean / Assistant Administrator of this institute during working days.

Sd/- Director Cum Dean SABVMCRI, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/3403/Adverto/2024-25

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (Bommanahalli Constituency) Lakes Division, Room No. 309, 3rd Floor, New Building, N.R.Square, Bengaluru-560002
No. EE-BC/(Lakes)/TN-03/2024-25 Date : 22-11-2024

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Short Term Tender Notification - Single Cover Tender)
(Through GOK KPP Portal only)

Tenders on item rate basis are invited by the undersigned for the work mentioned below from the registered contractors of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES or any State Government Organizations.

Sl.	Name of the Work
1	Providing other allied repair works at Sarakki Lake, Mangammanapalya Lakes & Venkojirao/Agara Lake (Reserved for SC Category). **Value of work :** Rs. 30.00 Lakhs. **EMD :** Rs. 30,000/-
2	Providing other allied repair works at Singasandra lake & Kodige Singasandra Lakes. **Value of work :** Rs. 25.00 Lakhs. **EMD :** Rs. 50,000/-
3	Providing other allied repair works at Haralakunte (Somasundarapalya Lake) & Puttenahalli (next to brigade millenium) Lake. **Value of work :** Rs. 25.00 Lakhs. **EMD :** Rs. 50,000/-

(1) Bid documents can be downloaded from **27-11-2024** from the webiste **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** **(2)** Tenders must be submitted online through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal on or before **16:00 hours on 04-12-2024. (3)** Technical Bids will be opened on the website **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** in the Office of the Executive Engineer (Bommanahalli Constituency) Lakes, BBMP on **05-12-2024 at 16.30 hours.**

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Bommanahalli Constituency), Lakes Division, BBMP

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Telephone No: 044-28432911, Fax No: 044-28432913.
CIN: U64204TN2007SGC064958 E-Mail: tactv@tactv.in

e-Tender Notice No:TACTV/001/STB Rental/2024

Tamil Nadu Arasu Cable TV Corporation (TACTV) invites online Tender for Empanelment for supply of High-Definition (HD) Digital Cable TV Set Top Boxes including Conditional Access System (CAS) to TACTV on Rental Model. The tender document can be downloaded at free of cost from **https://tntenders.gov.in** from 23.11.2024 - 16.00 Hrs. The last date and time for online submission of bids through **https://tntenders.gov.in** (e-Tender) is 9.12.2024 till 3.00 PM.

DIPR/5080/Tender/2024

Managing Director

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ
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ನಂ.ಎಚ್.ಡಿಎಂಸಿ/66/07/02/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ:22–11–2024

ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

ಸನ್ 2024–25ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ 15ನೇ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಅನುದಾನ, ಎಸ್.ಸಿ.ಪಿ & ಟಿ.ಎಸ್.ಪಿ/7.25% ಅನುದಾನದಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಆಧ್ಯಾದೇಶ 1999–2000ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ ಬಿಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ನಿಯಮದನ್ವಯ PWD/CPWD/ ಇತರೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತರಾದ 1ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ, 2ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ, 3ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಮತ್ತು 4ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಮೇಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಟೆಂಡರನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು.

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1) ಟೆಂಡರ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 11/12/2024 ಸಂಜೆ 05.00 ಗಂಟೆ
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ಈ ಮೇಲಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ (31 ರಿಂದ 51)
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ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು
ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಧಾರವಾಡ.

ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಇ/ಧಾರವಾಡ/640/ದೇಶಪಾಂಡೆಪಬ್ಲಿಸಿಟಿ/2024–25

Woman quizzed by CID in Bhovi corpn. scam case ends life

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A woman questioned by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) in connection with the alleged scam in the Karnataka Bhovi Development Corporation, ended her life in her residence at Padmanabhanagar here on Friday. She reportedly left a death note, in which she has allegedly blamed the investigating officials of the CID for her death.

Case against IO

Confirming the death, Lokesh B. Jagalasar, Deputy Commissioner of Police (South), Bengaluru, said that an abetment to suicide case has been registered against Kanakalakshmi, Dy. SP, CID, the investigating officer (IO) in the Bhovi development corporation fraud case.

The deceased has been identified as Jeeva. Sources in the CID said a total of ₹97 crore granted by the State government to the corporation under an employment scheme was misused in the name of 500 beneficiaries. A part of this money, so diverted, was transferred to accounts in the name of the deceased woman and from there disbursed to other accused, CID officials claim.

The CID recently raided the residence of Sunil Valyapure, BJP MLC, in connection with the case.

(If you are in distress or having suicidal tendencies, please reach out to these 24/7 helplines: KIRAN 1800-599-0019 or Arogya Sahayavani at 104 for help)

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY

SHANTHA CHAKRAPANI
We will miss your love and guidance everyday
Sons: C.Vijayanand, C.Vijayram
and Family members

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File No: DT/EXB/43/2024-25 Date:22.11.2024
Indent Number: DT/2024-25/SE0050 and DT/2024-25/SE0049

NOTICE INVITING FOR TENDER
(Through KPPP Portal Only)

Department of Tourism Government of Karnataka (DoT) intends to appoint an agency for Domestic events Management and Organising Domestic Road shows of Karnataka Tourism and International events Management and Organising International Road shows of Karnataka Tourism by inviting proposal from competent agency(ies) having similar experience in accordance with the Request for Proposal (REP) Document. The Bidding Document may be downloaded from the KPPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/** from **Dt:20.11.2024** onwards. Bidders may submit their Proposals through mode on https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ Portal.

A pre-bid meeting With agencies submitting bids to the International event Management agency will be held on **Dt: 28.11.2024 at 11:30 AM** and A pre-bid meeting With agencies submitting bids to the Domestic event Management agency will be held on **Dt: 28.11.2024 at 12:30 PM** at the below mentioned address of the Director, Tourism. Both Tenders last date and time for submission of Proposals (Proposal Due Date) is **Dt: 20.12.2024 upto 4:00 PM.** The Tender Inviting Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders to be received without assigning any reasons thereof. All subsequent notifications, changes and amendments will be posted only on the aforesaid KPPP Portal.

In case of any queries/clarifications on the project/documents please contact DoT

Sd/-
Joint Director (P&P) and Tender Inviting Authority.

DIPR/CP/JA/3380/2024-25

Wayanad, Palakkad and Chelakkara results today

Results will be updated after each round of counting on EC's website; voter turnout for Wayanad LS seat, two Assembly constituencies remained low despite high-octane campaign in Kerala

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The votes for the byelections to the Wayanad Lok Sabha constituency and the Assembly constituencies of Palakkad and Chelakkara will be counted from 8 a.m. on Saturday. The early trends will become clear in an hour.

Voter turnout in the three constituencies remained low despite the high-octane campaign taken out by the three major fronts. The Wayanad Lok Sabha segment garnered national attention with the Congress fielding Priyanka Gandhi Vadra for the United Democratic Front (UDF) to retain the seat relinquished by her brother Rahul Gandhi.

Wait's over: People waiting in queue to cast their vote during the Palakkad Assembly byelection on November 20. K.K. MUSTAFAH

A total of 16 candidates are in the fray in Wayanad, including the Left Democratic Front's (LDF) Sathyan Mokeri, and the National Democratic Alliance's Navya Haridas.

The byelection to the Palakkad Assembly segment was the most vigorously fought, with two major defections redrawing the poll narrative. All three fronts faced headwinds during the course of electioneering. With the BJP remaining a major force to reckon with in the constituency, Palakkad is being keenly watched for whether it will stay with the UDF or send the second-ever BJP legislator to the Kerala Assembly.

Chelakkara Assembly segment, too, witnessed an intense campaign, with the UDF's Ramya Haridas taking on LDF's U.R. Pradeep and NDA's K. Balakrishnan. The entry of a candidate representing Independent legislator P.V. Anwar's newly formed party mired the poll scene. Voter turnout in Chelakkara was 72.77%.

The results will be updated after each round of counting on the Election Commission's website, https://results.eci.gov.in

Valmiki corporation case: Karnataka HC directive to CBI

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Agency told to submit details of probe conducted so far on FIR registered based on Union Bank of India's complaint

The High Court of Karnataka on Friday directed the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to submit details of the probe conducted so far in the first information report (FIR) registered by it on the complaint lodged by Union Bank of India (UBI) on multi-crore misappropriation of funds belonging to the State-run Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Ltd. using the accounts maintained in one of the branches of the bank in Bengaluru.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the order on a petition filed by BJP leaders, Basanagouda Patil Yatnal, Ramesh Jarkiholi, Arvind Limbavali, and Kumar Bangarappa.

Appearing for the petitioners, advocate Venkatesh Dalwai told the court that the CBI had not conducted any investigation in the case even though the FIR was registered way back in June on the UBI's complaint.

The UBI had lodged the FIR with the CBI as some of the officials at its branch were found to be involved in the transfer of crores of rupees from the corporation's account to various other accounts based on instructions from officials of the corporation. As the misappropriated amount exceeded ₹50 crore, the bank, as per the mandate of the Reserve Bank of India, has to register a complaint with the CBI.

Citing the apex court's verdict on the need for monitoring certain investigations by the High Courts, the advocate requested the court that it is a fit case for monitoring by the High Court as the CBI has failed to start the investigation in such a serious case.

Waiting for orders

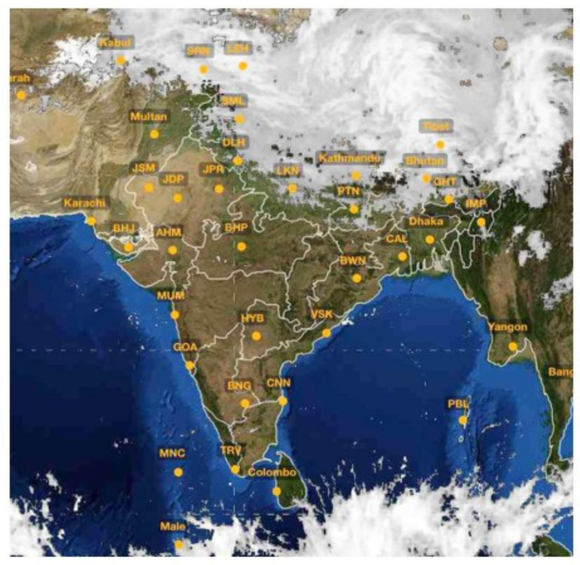
However, CBI's Special Public Prosecutor P. Prasanna Kumar told the court that the agency was waiting for the orders of the High Court on the UBI's petition, in which the bank had sought transfer to the CBI the investigation into a separate FIR registered by the State police on the misappropriation of funds in the Valmiki corporation.

The SPP also told the court that the CBI had now commenced the investigation as the High Court on November 13 rejected the UBI's petition for transfer of the State's FIR to the Central agency.

Further hearing on the petition was adjourned till December 12.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Dense fog likely in isolated pockets of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Chandigarh and Delhi. Squally weather likely to prevailing over many parts of southeast Bay of Bengal, south Andaman sea and adjoining north Andaman Sea

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	29.2	16.5	Kozhikode	—	34.6	25.7
Ahmedabad	—	30.3	16.6	Kurnool	—	31.2	18.7
Aizawl	—	29.1	17.0	Lucknow	—	27.4	12.3
Allahabad	—	26.8	12.4	Madurai	—	31.7	22.1
Bengaluru	—	29.5	17.4	Mangaluru	—	32.2	23.6
Bhopal	—	27.1	9.4	Mumbai	—	34.7	18.9
Bhubaneswar	—	30.0	17.0	Mysuru	—	31.2	17.9
Chandigarh	—	28.0	10.3	New Delhi	—	27.2	11.0
Chennai	—	31.1	23.1	Patna	—	26.0	16.5
Coimbatore	—	30.6	22.2	Port Blair	—	31.7	25.6
Dehradun	—	27.0	10.6	Puducherry	—	31.0	22.2
Gangtok	—	15.3	10.8	Pune	—	32.2	17.0
Goa	—	33.0	23.0	Raipur	—	28.8	16.4
Guwahati	—	29.3	16.8	Ranchi	—	24.6	12.4
Hubballi	—	30.0	15.0	Shillong	—	19.3	8.5
Hyderabad	—	29.6	15.7	Shimla	—	20.0	8.8
Imphal	—	25.3	15.5	Srinagar	—	14.5	-1.2
Jaipur	—	27.9	12.6	Thiruvananthapuram	0.1	32.4	23.8
Kochi	—	31.4	24.8	Tiruchi	—	30.7	23.0
Kohima	—	18.9	9.3	Vijayawada	—	30.0	20.2
Kolkata	—	28.3	18.8	Visakhapatnam	—	30.0	22.1

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	6	18	.22	223	160	
Bengaluru	.10	.25	.42	77	134	
Chennai	.15	.30	.31	280	156	
Delhi	9	146	110	439	451	
Hyderabad	.10	.27	.43	257	—	
Kolkata	.13	.87	.36	217	168	
Lucknow	.10	.37	.96	332	312	
Mumbai	4	.51	.23	238	175	
Pune	.12	.40	.52	264	153	
Visakhapatnam	.10	.67	.41	190	166	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Delhi recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 393 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 27

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Pralhad Joshi apologises to D'Cunha

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Pralhad Joshi

Union Minister for Food and Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Pralhad Joshi has apologised to John Michael D'Cunha, who heads the commission probing the alleged irregularities during the pandemic under the BJP rule, over his recent statements.

Following extracts of the commission's report being reported in the media, Mr. Joshi had allegedly called Mr. D'Cunha a "Congress agent". Ministers Krishna Byre Gowda and Dinesh Gundu Rao had even complained to the Governor over it.

In his letter addressed to Mr. D'Cunha, Mr. Joshi clarified that "the statements made by me were only and only in the context of the procedure adopted by the commission in not affording an opportunity to persons allegedly indicted".

He further said: "I have no reason either to doubt your integrity or impartiality in discharge of your duties as a member of the commission."

"At a personal level I must state that if the statements made by me unintendedly has caused any hurt or misgivings to you I do regret the same and place my sincere apology," the Union Minister said.

Two hacked to death in Telangana

The Hindu Bureau
MULUGU

Even as the security forces launched a major anti-Maoist operation in the neighbouring Chhattisgarh, the Maoist rebels struck terror in the border village of Penugolu in Telangana's Mulugu district by killing two persons accusing them of being police informers, around Thursday midnight.

Government of Karnataka
KARNATAKA CO-OPERATIVE POULTRY FEDERATION
Registration No: OTC/144/HET/94-95/Dated:15.3.1995
Karnataka Govt owned Company
Behind Pasupalana Bhawan, 1st Floor, Hebbala, Bangalore-560 024.
Phone No : 080- 2990 2415, Email : mdkcpfbangalore@gmail.com

No. MD/KCPF/DESI CHICKS/TENDER/2024-25 Date : 22.11.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(KPP Portal mode Only)

The Managing Director, Karnataka Co-operative Poultry Federation, UAS Campus, Hebbal, Bengaluru–560 024 hereby invites bids through KPP -portal from eligible bidders **For Supply of Desi Chicks For Supply to Rural Women During The Year 2024-25** for which the tendered Amount is Rs. **367.55** lakhs.
Complete tender documents can be viewed by visiting website No: KPP portal from Date : **22.11.2024** and tenderers can upload all the necessary documents through KPP portal from **22.11.2024** to **07.12.2024** till 17.30 hours. Further information can be obtained from KPP Portal and this office during office hours.

Sd/-
Managing Director Karnataka Co-operative Poultry Federation
DIPR/CP/3384/Zen/2024-25

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಪೂರ್ವ) ರವರ ಕಚೇರಿ, ಸಯ್ಯಾಜಿ ರಾವ್ ರಸ್ತೆ
ಮೈಸೂರು-57 0024, ಇ-ಮೇಲ್: eeemccmys@gmail.com
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಹೆಚ್ 1/ಪವಿ/101/2022-2023 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 21.11.2024

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ವಿವಿಧ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

1) ಒಟ್ಟು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು: **3 (ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ. 1, 3, 6 Goods Tender).** ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ: **90.30.** ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಚಾಲ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22.11.2024 ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11.00ರ ನಂತರ.** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 06.12.2024 ಸಂಜೆ 5:30 ರವರೆಗೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್** ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07.12.2024 ಸಂಜೆ 5:30 ನಂತರ.**

2) ಒಟ್ಟು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ: **1 (ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.4 Goods Tender).** ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ: **390.00.** ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಚಾಲ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22.11.2024 ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11.00ರ ನಂತರ.** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23.12.2024 ಸಂಜೆ 5:30 ರವರೆಗೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್** ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24.12.2024 ಸಂಜೆ 5:30 ನಂತರ.**

3) ಒಟ್ಟು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ: **5 (ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.5 Service Tender).** ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ: **37.01.** ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಚಾಲ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22.11.2024 ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11.00ರ ನಂತರ.** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 06.12.2024 ಸಂಜೆ 5:30 ರವರೆಗೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್** ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07.12.2024 ಸಂಜೆ 5:30 ನಂತರ.**

4) ಒಟ್ಟು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು: **4 (EOI).** ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಚಾಲ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22.11.2024 ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11.00ರ ನಂತರ.** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29.11.2024 ಸಂಜೆ 5:30 ರವರೆಗೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್** ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30.11.2024 ಸಂಜೆ 5:30 ನಂತರ.**

ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರವನ್ನು ಕಚೇರಿ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ **ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಕಾ.ಅ (ಪೂ) ರವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ** ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. **ವಿಶೇಷ ಸೂಚನೆ:** ಮುಂದೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಸೂಚನೆ / ಬದಲಾವಣೆ / ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಯಾವುದೇ ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಪೂರ್ವ)
ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು.
DIPR/MYS/RO/833/2024-25

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited
(A Joint Venture of GoI & GoK)
Metro Rail Depot, Old Madras Road, Near NGEF Bus Stop, Baiyappanahalli , Bengaluru - 560 038. Ph: 080-25191039
e-mail: contactus@bmrc.co.in Website: www.bmrc.co.in
Bid No.: BMRCL/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT53 Date: 16.11.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION

BMRCL invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for **"Curve station marking for Metro Railway Track from Sandal Soap Factory (SSFY) Metro Station to Yelachenahalli (PUTH) Metro Station of Line-2 section".** The works details can be obtained from the procurement website. The Tender documents can be obtained and submitted **on or before 16.12.2024 up to 15:00 hrs.** Further details can be obtained from website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or contact this office during office working Hours.

Sd/- Executive Director (O & M)

Government of Karnataka
KARNATAKA RESIDENTIAL EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS SOCIETY
(A Government of Karnataka Organisation)
No.8, MSB - 01, 6th & 7th Floor, Cunningham Road, Bangalore-560 052. Tel: 080-22283366, Fax: 080-22262288
KREIS/INFR/OTH/61/2024-ADMN/E-119371 Date: 22.11.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through E- Procurement Only)

Tenders have been invited on 22.11.2024 Re-Tender No: **KREIS/2024-25/IND0007/CALL-2**, for Supply of Mattress & Pillows to Various Backward classes Residential Schools functioning under the Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society across in Karnataka through e-Portal **http://e-procurement.gov.in.** and the last date for receipt of tenders is **02.12.2024.** The details may be viewed in the above website.

Sd/-
Executive Director
KREIS, Bengaluru.
DIPR/CP/3394/Zen/2024-25

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ – ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಯೋಜನೆ) ಕಚೇರಿ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ
ಇ-ಮೇಲ್: projecthdmc1@gmail.com
ನಂ.: ಎಚ್.ಡಿಎಂಪಿ/100/01/Works/ಟೆಂ.ಪ್ರ./2024-25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22-11-2024

ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ (kppp) ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಆದೇಶ 1999–2000ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಆಕ್ಟ್ 2000 ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ ಬಿಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ನಿಯಮಗಳನ್ವಯ ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಅನುದಾನದಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತರಾದ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು / ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯವರಿಂದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ (kppp) ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಕಾರಣಗಳಿಂದ ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದಾದರೂ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯಾದಲ್ಲಿ, ಸದರಿ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ / ದಾಖಲೆಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಅಂತರ್‌ಜಾಲ ವಿಳಾಸ **http://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ದಲ್ಲಿ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 27/11/2024** ರಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಯೋಜನೆ) ಹು.ಧಾ.ಮ.ಪಾ ಕಚೇರಿಗೆ ಕಚೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಬಹುದು. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪೂರ್ವಭಾವಿ ಸಭೆಯನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಯೋಜನೆ) ಹು.ಧಾ.ಮ.ಪಾ ಸರ್. ಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ ಕಂಬಳಿ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ಇವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕಚೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

1) DMA/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT31899
2) DMA/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT31901
3) DMA/2024-25/SE4093
4) DMA/2024-25/SE4094

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ. 1 ಮತ್ತು 2 ರ ಟೆಂಡರ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ 12/12/2024 ರವರೆಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 13/12/2024. ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ. 3 ಮತ್ತು 4 ರ ಟೆಂಡರ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ 12/12/2024 ರವರೆಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 13/12/2024. ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 18–12–2024 ರಂದು ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು. ಅಥವಾ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ಅನುಮೋದನೆಯಾದ ನಂತರ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು. ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ. 1 ರಿಂದ 4 ರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳ ಕುರಿತು ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ 30/11/2024 ರಂದು 16.00.00 ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ, ಸಂಭಾವ್ಯ ಬಿಡ್‌ದಾರರ ಪೂರ್ವಭಾವಿ ಸಭೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 02/12/2024 ರಂದು 11.00.00 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ.

ಡಿಐಪಿಆರ್/ಧಾರವಾಡ/639/ಮಣಿಜಾಲ್/2024–25
ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಯೋಜನೆ)
ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE, INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION (ISRO)
CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP
ISRO-TELEMETRY TRACKING & COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC)
Plot No.12 & 13, 3rd Main, 2nd Phase, Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-560 058. Fax:080-28094180, Ph:080-280904178 / 4541

CORRIGENDUM-II Date:22.11.2024
1. On behalf of President of India, **item rate E-Tender** is invited from Contractors of appropriate class for the following works

NIT No.	**ISTRAC/CMG/MECH/CON/E-Tender-50/ 2024-2025 Dated: 07.10.2024.**
Name of Work	**Replacement of 04 No.s Passenger Lifts at 3D & 2E Block DOS ISRO Housing Colony Jalahalli and 01 No. of Passenger Lift at Anthariksh Apartment, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru.**
Estimate cost put to tender	**Rs. 104.28 Lakhs**
Tender Document details	**E-Tender**
Period of completion	**Six (06) Months**
Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	From 16.00 hrs. on 08.10.2024 to 05.11.2024 till 16.00 hrs. Extended up to 18.11.2024 till 16.00 hrs. **Further Extended up to 30.11.2024 till 16.00 hrs.**
Bid clarifications	From 11.00 hrs. on 09.10.2024 to 06.11.2024 till 16.00 hrs Extended up to 19.11.2024 till 16.00 hrs. **Further Extended up to 02.12.2024 till 16.00 hrs.**
Last date of reply to Bid clarification	07.11.2024 up to 16.00 hrs Extended up to 20.11.2024 till 16.00 hrs. **Further Extended up to 03.12.2024 up to 16.00 hrs.**
Last date & time of receipt of tenders	08.11.2024 up to 16.00 hrs Extended up to 21.11.2024 till 16.00 hrs. **Further Extended up to 04.12.2024 up to 16.00 hrs.**
Due date and time of opening of tenders	11.11.2024 after 11.00 hrs. Extended up to 22.11.2024 after 11.00 hrs. **Further Extended up to 05.12.2024 till 16.00 hrs.**
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Rs. 2,08,560.00

2. Interested Tenderers may please refer **Detailed Notice Inviting Tender** (NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details in website: **www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO.**

Sd/- Group Head,CMG

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
 # 49, East Wing , 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru – 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383. Website: www.kiadb.in
No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-32/1764/2024-25 Date:22.11.2024

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Item rate Tenders under two cover system are invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Class-I Civil Contractors registered in KPWD who have got adequate financial resources & sufficient past experience for the following works as per the schedule given below:

Name of the work: (1) Formation of Industrial Layout Including Formation of 24M Wide Roads, 18M Wide Roads, Including Asphalting, Construction of RCC Side Drains, RCC Cross drainage Works, Nala Training Works, RWH & HDPE Water Supply Pipeline at Sanjeevarayanakote Industrial Area, Ballari Taluk, Ballari District. Sector-1. **(2)** Formation of Industrial Layout Including Formation of 18M Wide Roads, 15M Wide Roads, Including Asphalting, Construction of RCC Side Drains, RCC Cross drainage Works, SWD, OHT Sump, RWH, Rising Main & HDPE Water Supply Pipeline at Sanjeevarayanakote Industrial Area, Ballari Taluk, Ballari District, Sector-2.

Last date for submission of bids is: **11.12.2024 upto 04:30 pm**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer - 2
DIPR/CP/JA/3395/2024-25

City Municipal Council, Chikkamagaluru
Office : 08262- 230420 Fax: 08262-232272 Commissioner : 08262-232272 Helpline: 08262-232222
E-Mail ID: comm_ckg@yahoo.co.in Website : www.chickmagalurcity.gov.in
No.: CMC/CKM/MRF/CR/01/2024-25 Date: 20.11.2024

e-Procurement Tender Notice

Tender is invited in two cover system through e-procurement subject to conditions from authorised sellers/distributors/suppliers for supply of Materials/Machineries detailed below under Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 . Those interested can submit Tenders subject to conditions.

Sl No.	Details of work	Approx. Amount (Rs. in lakhs)	E.M.D. (in Rs.)
1	DMA/2024-25/IND 3888	24.78	62,000/-
2	DMA/2024-25/IND 3889	57.69	1,15,500/-
3	DMA/2024-25/IND 3885	12.44	31,500/-

Cost of Tender Form –As per e-procurement. Time Period: 03 Months excluding rainy season.
1. Last date for submission of Tender in e-procurement portal: 06.12.2024 up to 17.00 Hrs. **2.** Date of opening Technical Bid: 07.12.2024 at 17.00 Hrs. **3.** Date of opening Financial Bid: 09.12.2024 at 11.00 Hrs.
Further details can be obtained during working hours of this office and from https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Due to any reason, if there are any changes, they will be published only in e-procurement and will not be published in newspapers. Contractors should view them in K.P.P.Portal.

Sd/- (B.C. Sujatha Shivakumar) President
City Municipal Council, Chikkamagaluru.
Sd/- (Anu Madhukar Vice President
City Municipal Council, Chikkamagaluru.
Sd/- (B.C. Basavaraju, K.M.A.S.)
Municipal Commissioner, City Municipal Council, Chikkamagaluru.
DIPR/ckm/No.85/ksmca/24-25/1094

Shielding Adani

U.S. action should occasion domestic probe into allegations

It will be a matter of everlasting shame if there is no domestic investigation by Indian agencies into allegations by the U.S. Department of Justice that billionaire businessman Gautam Adani and his associates offered bribes to officials in more than one State. Federal prosecutors have filed their indictment based on perceived violations of U.S. laws that prohibit corrupt transactions with foreign entities. India will have to order its own probe in terms of domestic anti-corruption law. So far, especially following revelations by Hindenburg Research, a U.S.-based short-seller, the Modi regime has shown a marked reluctance to countenance the idea of any wrongdoing by the Adani Group. The BJP has been putting up a stout defence of the group as though its political interests are inseparable from Mr. Adani's corporate interests. The Union government has so far remained impervious to entreaties from the Opposition for a joint parliamentary committee probe into the allegations, which range from manipulation of share prices, non-disclosure of related party transactions, round-tripping of funds and even regulatory capture. Sporadic and possibly perfunctory probes by some agencies have yielded little by way of action. However, the Supreme Court of India found the outcome of investigations by the market regulator, the Securities and Exchange Board of India, credible enough to reject a demand for handing the Adani probe to an independent agency.

Several State governments, most notably Andhra Pradesh, have now been named in the overseas indictment pertaining to the supply of solar power from Adani Green and Azure Power Global Ltd., the companies at the centre of the storm. The alleged amount offered as bribes amounted to ₹2,029 crore ($265 million), of which ₹1,750 crore was meant for a 'foreign official' in Andhra Pradesh. The YSR Congress Party, which was in power in A.P. at the relevant time, and the Tamil Nadu government, have denied any link with the Adani Group, maintaining that their deals were with the SECI. The indictment, however, talks of internal messages among the defendants about how "the discoms are being motivated". Instead of taking potshots at the non-BJP parties that ran these State governments at the relevant time, the Centre should shed its reluctance to investigate the Adani Group. The fortunes of Mr. Adani, counted as one of the world's richest, may now see a steep spiral, as not only have shares of his companies crashed but also countries that have entered investments from his conglomerate may turn their backs on him. However, this is not an issue about one tycoon suffering a setback due to developments beyond the control of his political patrons. It is about how far a government can be seen as shielding an individual.

Urgent deadline

Poverty and climate change must be tackled urgently by the G-20

Tackling global hunger and poverty and promoting climate justice were declared goals for the recent G-20 summit in Rio de Janeiro. Brazilian President Lula Da Silva called poverty a "scourge that shames humanity", asking the gathered nations to implement policies such as taxing the 'super-rich', using a 2% wealth tax on the world's wealthiest to generate more than $200 billion in revenue. But the G-20 declaration fell short of that. Prime Minister Narendra Modi too underlined that the problems of the world are felt most acutely by the 'Global South', and, therefore, that the reins of global administration must belong to those that represent the larger majority in the world. The G-20 hosted by Brazil, was by the third host country of the Global South, after Indonesia in 2022 and India in 2023. The next G-20 is to be in South Africa. The Brazil summit was expected to focus on solutions for the poorer, emerging economies. However, its timing diluted the cause and diffused the focus, given the other issues the world confronts. This was the first G-20 summit since the October 7 attacks on Israel and its reprisals on Gaza and Lebanon. Russia's invasion of Ukraine had also made forging consensus at Bali and New Delhi already quite difficult. With deepening polarised narratives over both conflicts, the G-20 declaration was watered down, expressing only "deep concern" over the humanitarian situation in Gaza, and dropping all reference to Russia while highlighting the "suffering... with regard to global food and energy security". It was devoid of specifics on ending the conflicts.

The G-20 was also timed closely with the COP29 in Azerbaijan – Brazil will be in 2025 host – indicating that issues of climate financing and climate justice, which have been raised by the developing world, would find place in the G-20 declarations, and then feed into the COP process. However, the summit followed just after the U.S. presidential election results, casting its shadow. Given his moves during his first tenure, Donald Trump will not set much store by the aspirations of the Global South. Nor is he likely to expend the kind of resources expected from the U.S. towards tackling global warming or in curtailing the exploitation of fossil fuels. His cabinet has climate deniers and his own campaign slogan was "Drill, baby, drill". Given the portents, the Global South, and the quartet of Indonesia-India-Brazil-South Africa, will have to ensure that the next G-20 is able to concretise the concerns of the developing world, and set out a path for the future on poverty and hunger, climate change and global governance. In 2026, as the G-20 will return to the U.S., the deadline is more urgent.

Understanding the changing face of extremist violence

M.K. Narayanan

a former Director, Intelligence Bureau, a former National Security Adviser, and a former Governor of West Bengal

The nearly three-year-old war in Ukraine and the subsequent Israel-Hamas conflict in the Middle East seem to have temporarily eclipsed all news across the world of other kinds of violence, specially those by disparate extremist groups. In the process, the consequences of, and aspects of, newer trends in extremist violence are being lost sight of, and this could have consequences for the future.

A RAND study published a couple of years ago in the United States, under the preferred headline 'Changing Face of Hate, domestic extremist violence', had indicated that important changes were constantly taking place in the realm of domestic terrorism and violent extremism. The *obiter dicta* of this study was that it is imperative for law enforcement officers to properly understand the nature of the changes that were taking place across the spectrum to be able to prepare for future eventualities.

The study, no doubt, had special relevance for the U.S. Yet, in a subliminal fashion, it did contain lessons for other countries as well. While India did not have to contend with the kind of militant organisations that existed in the U.S. in the latter half of the 20th century, the situation post the Second World War in India had not been a peaceful one, even as India gained independence.

Early post-Independence history

As anyone aware of India's post-Independence history would know, in the initial years, communal violence of varying intensity and a resurgent Communist movement, intent on embarking on a revolutionary path, had caused major problems for India. The 'Tebhaga Movement' in Bengal and the Communist uprising in Telangana in the late 1940s, were stark reminders of what the Communists were attempting, but fortunately they could not succeed.

The revolutionary spark, however, had not been completely extinguished. In the late 1960s, and for many years thereafter till the end of the 20th century, Communist extremism did prove to be a major bane for the Indian state. The Naxalite Movement (as it came to be known) did have enough ideological appeal left to spur a left-wing renaissance. For a time, it attracted the best and the brightest of youth in the country, though in course of time, the movement descended into mindless violence. During its heyday, left-wing extremists or Naxalites could establish sizeable pockets of influence across West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala.

Ideological appeal may not be enough to sustain a movement, but it is an important magnet, specially for ideologies such as left-wing extremism. It would, hence, be a mistake to believe that countries are easily insulated from the infiltration of pernicious doctrines. The takeaway from ideologies such as Naxalism is that they continue to lurk not too far below the surface. Strict vigil is, hence, called for.

> In the greater focus on the bigger wars in the world, the consequences of newer trends in extremist violence are being lost sight of

The right wing's spread

The world has moved on since, and practitioners of revolutionary ideas have changed tack. Left-wing ideas seem to have given way to right-wing philosophies, and the second seems to have many new adherents. This may seem a relatively recent phenomenon, but has been gaining ground for some time, specially across Europe. In the recent period, for instance, Germany has turned increasingly xenophobic. Domestic politics in that country today is highly polarised. France faces an uncertain future, unsure whether further concessions would have to be made to the right wing, damaging France's image as a 'middle-of-the-road nation'. This is also accompanied by a steady erosion of trust in liberal values. As of now, the right-wing in Europe is no longer a fringe element. This has implications not only for Europe but also for much of the world.

Europe, already traumatised by the Ukraine conflict, seems to be losing most of its earlier bearings, and at times appears rudderless. Most European leaders appear unable to recognise the reality, or deal with a situation that it is not ready or prepared for. For much of the world, the change is unprecedented and will require many an adjustment. In retrospect, it is even possible to view the Brexit verdict of 2016 (in the United Kingdom) as an early pointer to the shifting of the political centre rightwards in Europe.

All of this has implications for much of the world, India included. 'Radicalization of mainstream right ideas' and 'mainstreaming of far right ideas' across Europe will have an impact for countries across the globe. It would entail effecting a shift from dealing with left-wing extremist ideas and threats to many newer kinds of threats of the right extremist variety. This may not be easy and will entail a reconfiguration of all that needs to be done by those in-charge. It is bound to have many consequences for democracy and national sovereignty.

The world also cannot overlook, or ignore, its 'date with destiny', *viz.*, the year 2001 unleashing of the largest mobilisation of right wing (Jihadist sympathisers) in the West in recent times. It upended an unprecedented fractured threat landscape in the West, apart from certain other regions of the globe, causing governments to come under immense pressure. Misinformation and disinformation aggravated problems and helped feed right-wing extremist ideologies and movements. The COVID-19 epidemic, in turn, helped to exacerbate a situation already in the making, with social isolation, unproven grievances, and little known factors acting as drivers for a radicalisation of ideas and mobilisation. Today, a cross pollination of right-wing extremist ideologies is helping exacerbate situations of violent extremism of the right-wing variety.

The rise of the Islamic State coincided with this, and, in course of time, was to cast a shadow over vast swathes of territory across the entire West Asia and extend its tentacles to many other regions as well. It was a different kind of catalyst for change in so far as extremist right-wing militancy was concerned and led to rising levels of insecurity in multiple regions. A definitive assertion that pro-Jihadist criminal activities, alongside individual home grown supporters backed by small cells (each comprising few operatives) were responsible for much of the disruption and violence in several regions of the globe, may have to wait. But that there is a threat cannot be ignored. In a milieu of this kind, law enforcement agencies are often required to take a 'leap of faith' so that situations do not become critical; agencies are left unprepared to deal with the consequences.

The focus

It is in the fitness of things that law and order agencies across the globe are taking a closer look at the rising dimensions and implications of right-wing terror and the role of right-wing terror modules. A few years ago, there was an avalanche of protests in India, specially in the south of the country, against action taken by the government in cracking down on organisations such as the Popular Front of India (PFI) and the Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI), both of which were termed as pro-right-wing extremist Muslim bodies. It was not unusual that there should be protests of this kind for what is seldom apparent to many are the underside of these agencies, which are little known to most, but over time do have sinister connotations.

Undoubtedly, this was precipitated by concerns over the growing dimensions in India and across the globe of right-wing terror modules and the increase in right-wing militancy. To establish a connection has not been easy, but, over time, it has been possible to reach an understanding about the spread of right-wing tendencies among sections of the Muslim community, including youth, students, women and the working class. It is often said that it is necessary to 'break an egg to make an omelette'. Growing concerns across the world about right-wing and Islamist militancy did call for the adoption of certain harsh measures, which need to be handled with care. Security is not a 'zero-sum-game' and 'eternal vigilance is the price of liberty'. This is the message that is sought and sent out in the context of both growing right-wing extremist militancy and the yet-to-be extinguished left-wing extremist violent activities.

Democratising AI needs a radically different approach

Urvashi Aneja

the Founder and Director of Digital Futures Lab

The growing power and influence of Big Tech companies is a concern for policymakers worldwide. To break Big Tech's hold over the Artificial Intelligence (AI) ecosystem and democratise AI development, India, like many other countries, is investing in sovereign cloud infrastructure, creating open data platforms and supporting local start-ups. However, these efforts are unlikely to be enough and may even deepen Big Tech's dominance.

Challenges of Big Tech dominance

The enormous computational costs of building deep learning models make it nearly impossible for smaller players to compete. Deep learning is now the popular form of AI because it has generalised capabilities. But this is precisely also what makes it computationally expensive. As of 2023, Gemini Ultra was the most costly model, costing about $200 million to train. To make it affordable, any new entrant would necessarily be beholden to Big Tech companies for compute credits. These costs also incentivise Big Tech companies to keep advocating for deep learning as the future and pushing out larger and larger models – it locks in their position as the dominant actors and provides the primary revenue stream through which they can recover their costs.

Some recent policy proposals suggest investing in public compute infrastructure or developing a federated model, taking a leaf out of India's Digital Public Infrastructure model. However, it is not enough just to provide alternate infrastructure. This infrastructure also has to be competitive with the Big Tech offering. Big Tech companies offer a wide range of developer tools which make workflows easier and more efficient, and these tools are optimised for their cloud infrastructure. Along with access to cloud infrastructure, they give companies access to the latest algorithmic models, making tasks such as image or video analysis far easier, along with tools to simplify data preparation and labelling. Big Tech's end-to-end service offering makes development cheaper and easier and drives up the costs of switching to other providers.

> Not aiming to compete with or replicate the Big Tech model is essential; it should even look at championing 'small AI'

Big Tech's data monopoly is even harder to contend with. These companies access a continuous data stream across various domains, social interactions and geographies. This "data intelligence" is likely to be more sophisticated than what other players can achieve, giving them a substantial competitive edge. Unsurprisingly, many smaller AI companies find their end game is to sell to Big Tech, further entrenching the cycle of dominance. While public data initiatives aim to democratise data access and create a more equitable playing field, they often fall short. Open data initiatives are prone to commercial capture, where the better-resourced actors – here, Big Tech with its advanced computational infrastructure and data intelligence – are positioned to best leverage these open data architectures.

The shift toward deep learning as the most popular form of AI has also meant that commercial firms, particularly Big Tech, now dominate AI, and academia has a diminishing role. Industry players now have more academic publications and citations and are shaping the direction of AI research.

Prioritising a theory of change

We need a radically different approach to AI development that does not aim to compete with or replicate the Big Tech model but changes the rules of the game altogether. As long as we are locked into a 'big-data' and 'larger is better' imagination of AI, we will only keep chipping away at an exploitative model of commercial surveillance and even a wasting of precious public resources.

A model of AI development whose starting point is a theory of change, i.e., understanding the causal mechanisms through which various factors link together and developing hypotheses about how potential interventions may contribute to change.

In this model, domain expertise and lived experience guide AI development rather than statistical patterns in Big Data alone. This knowledge and experience are harnessed to develop theories of change and build purpose-driven and smaller models that reflect frameworks for progressive change. Data collection is then targeted and curated to test and further refine the theory of change. By championing "small AI", firmly anchored in a theory of change, we can carve out a space for AI development that is inherently more democratic and effective.

Historically, significant advancements in medicine, aviation, or weather forecasting typically relied on theory-driven models, where hypothesis testing and scientific rigour in fields such as biology, physics, and chemistry were prioritised over sheer volumes of data. In our obsession with 'bigger is better' we seem to have forgotten this entirely.

Another missed opportunity

We need to change course urgently, and we cannot do that as long as we keep viewing Big Data and deep learning as the holy grail. On this current path, we only increase our dependence on Big Tech. The recently signed Global Development Compact is a missed opportunity to re-think the current paradigm. While it makes all the right noises about democratising AI, it ultimately falls back into the same trap of assuming that if countries build large enough data sets and are given access to computational power, we will magically be able to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and address Big Tech monopolies.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Bribery and fraud'

The U.S. Department of Justice's five-count criminal indictment of the chairman of the Adani Group and several of his associates not only jeopardises the credibility of the Adani Group but also casts a shadow over India's corporate governance standards. The charges highlight systemic weaknesses in regulatory oversight, exposing how unchecked power can erode trust in India's business landscape. The case underscores the need for India to reinforce its regulatory mechanisms. Corporate ambition must not overshadow ethical governance as the credibility of the "India growth story" hinges on trust and accountability. This is a defining moment to ensure that India's economic progress is accompanied by integrity.

Pavithra M.,
Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu

It is baffling that only the small fish get caught while the bigger ones tear the nets and go scot-free. All this leaves the average citizen mystified.

C.K. Prem Kumar,
Kalvakulam, Palakkad, Kerala

One is at a loss to understand why spokespersons of the ruling party should rush to defend the Adani Group, and why the group's legal difficulties in the U.S. should be made out to be a conspiracy against the country and its economy. Going by the past, the political establishment is bound to use every means to pull the group's chestnuts out of fire. Citizens need to remain vigilant so that the nation's interests are not bartered away for the sake of a politically insulated businessman.

Manohar Alembath,
Kannur, Kerala

Corrections & Clarifications

In a report, "Adani will not be arrested in India because Modi is protecting him, says Rahul" (Inside pages, November 22, 2024), the quote in the second paragraph should have read: "... Madhabi Buch [SEBI Chairperson] who is his protector, who did not conduct any investigation, should be removed and investigated," Mr. Gandhi said at a press conference held at Congress headquarters in Delhi.

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

Sanjana Kushwaha (in yellow) and Sonu Kushwaha, from the Bar block of Lalitpur, lost their son in the fire that broke out at Maharani Laxmi Bai Medical College Hospital in Jhansi on November 15, 2024. A.M. FARUQUI

The fire that engulfed newborn babies

On November 15, a fire at a state-run medical college hospital in Uttar Pradesh's Jhansi claimed the lives of 10 infants. Five children who had been saved died later. Angry families allege negligence. **Mehul Malpani** reports on the tragedy that took place in a hospital that bears the burden of a crumbling healthcare system

Trigger warning: This story contains details about the deaths of infants. Please avoid reading if you are distressed by the subject.

On the night of November 15, Dharmendra Raikwar, 31, and Bhagwati, 27, were seated in the waiting area outside the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) of Jhansi's government-run Maharani Laxmi Bai Medical College Hospital. Their week-old son had been admitted there with a fever. Suddenly, they heard screams about a fire.

"When we went inside, we saw that someone had broken the windows of the ward and had started handing out babies," Dharmendra says. Babies were lifted out of incubators and their needles and tubes removed, to save them from the fire. Amid the pandemonium, an infant was thrust into their arms. Relieved that they had been reunited with their son, the couple admitted him in the district hospital in Lalitpur district, located about two hours away.

However, their happiness was short-lived. The next morning, the authorities called them, along with the parents of other children who had been admitted in the NICU, back to Jhansi to identify their babies.

"I could not believe my ears when they said that my baby had died in the fire and that the baby we had got was someone else's," says Bhagwati, sobbing. "Nobody can understand the pain of a mother who has lost her child. They even did a post-mortem on our child." The family lives in the Bar block of Lalitpur in a mud house with a broken roof and damaged walls. Their three-year-old daughter plays nearby.

The fire claimed the lives of 10 newborn babies. The Uttar Pradesh government has ordered a multi-level probe into the incident and also formed a four-member committee, headed by the Director General of Medical Education and Training, Kinjal Singh, to investigate it. The team arrived in Jhansi on November 18 and is yet to submit its report to the government. The government announced an ex gratia of ₹5 lakh to the family of each deceased baby and ₹50,000 to the families of injured babies.

U.P. Deputy Chief Minister, Brajesh Pathak, who also holds the health portfolio, went to the hospital to take stock of the situation on November 16. However, his visit became controversial after videos emerged on social media showing workers cleaning the premises and sprinkling lime powder on the roads – a practice commonly seen before welcoming VIPs, in India.

> I could not believe my ears when they said that my baby had died in the fire and that the baby we had got was someone else's.
>
> **BHAGWATI**
> Resident, Lalitpur

A horrific night

At 10.20 p.m. on November 15, several families sat in the waiting area outside the special newborn care unit (SNCU) of the medical college hospital. Others were preparing to sleep. No parent is allowed inside the unit unless they are called by the hospital staff to feed their child. The SNCU is divided into three sections based on the child's criticality. The NICU is the inner-most room.

When a few families went in to feed their babies, they saw that a fire had broken out. Kripal Singh was waiting outside the SNCU with his daughter who had been called inside to breastfeed her newborn. As he walked in, he says, he saw a nurse running out with one of her legs on fire. "There were more nurses there. So we just started picking up children in whatever condition they were, and handing them to the people outside," he recalls.

Megha James, 32, a nurse posted at the NICU, was among the first to spot the fire. "I was preparing an injection while a doctor was treating a child. Suddenly, an oxygen concentrator caught fire. We tried to control it. We called a ward boy, who tried to douse it with a fire extinguisher. But the flames had spread by then," she recalls.

James says plastic from equipment was falling everywhere. The hospital staff tried to douse the burning plastic on the floor with their footwear, but failed. "My uniform also caught fire," James says. "So I removed it and threw it away." She was treated at the hospital's burns unit.

The medical college principal, Dr. Narendra Singh Sengar, says the oxygen concentration in critical childcare units is kept at 49% as compared to the 21% in normal atmosphere, to help children breathe easily. This, he believes, could have worsened the fire in a short span of time.

Hearing the chaos, more family members rushed inside the SNCU. Some of them wrapped infants in blankets and ran out. Soon, black smoke blocked the entrance.

In about 20 minutes, a fire tender arrived at the scene and put out the fire, according to hospital authorities. While 39 of the 49 children admitted in the three rooms were rescued, the fire, suspected to have started from a short-circuit, killed 10 infants in the NICU. Among the rescued babies, 16 suffered injuries.

Fire extinguishers, some of them past their expiry dates, are kept outside the neonatal ICU of Maharani Laxmibai Medical College Hospital. A.M. FARUQUI

The hospital and the district authorities moved the remaining infants to the emergency ward, say officials. On November 16, most children were moved to the paediatric ICU of the hospital, while others were admitted to other government and private hospitals in the city.

Since the tragedy, five more children, who were rescued from the fire, have passed away. However, Dr. Sengar claims that they died from illnesses. The families allege negligence.

Confusion amid the chaos

As family members and hospital staff recall the tragic turn of events, they say everyone was only focused on one task, which was to save as many babies as they could.

Yakoob Mansoori and Nazma Bano gave birth to twin daughters on November 9. Mansoori was able to save about seven children from the fire, but not his own. His little girls were charred beyond recognition, he says.

Dharmendra's father, Munna Lal Raikwar, says there was no time to think. "All the children, dead or alive, were lying on a sheet on the floor outside the unit," he says.

When infants are admitted in hospital, they are given tags with details such as their parents' names, and their weight and other measurements. But given the emergency, the parents say they did not check these tags while rescuing the infants or taking them to the emergency ward. Some tags got lost, too. Consequently, children got swapped or remained missing for a couple of days before being reunited with their parents.

Kuldeep Singh from Parsaha village in Mahoba district stayed put outside the paediatric intensive care unit (PICU) as his child had gone missing. "My wife was constantly sobbing. We did not move from here (outside the PICU) and kept asking the doctors about him. When a doctor called us to identify our child and we saw him, we started crying," he says, as he helps out parents of other children with formalities. The 15-day-old, who had suffered minor burn injuries, had been handed to another family.

Similarly, Kripa Ram Yadav, a resident of Bamer village in Jhansi district, had to wait until the next evening to be reunited with his seven-day-old son.

Anger everywhere

Many families fault the hospital staff for the tragedy as well the administration for poor crisis management. Guddi Devi stares at a photo of her grandson near the hospital's emergency ward. The infant was rescued from the fire, but passed away on November 17.

Devi's husband, Satte, says that there was not enough medical staff to rescue the children. "We rescued him ourselves and his oxygen supply was cut for a while. Many children were bleeding as their drip had to be removed during the rescue," he says. The child's father, who had suffered a paralysis attack just a day before his son was born, is undergoing treatment in Lucknow.

Many people also claim that most of the fire extinguishers were dysfunctional and that the staff was not trained to use the ones that were functioning. Dr. Sengar says the expired extinguishers were kept in a storage room nearby and were brought out by people to break the windows. He contends that a fire safety audit was conducted in June and an electric audit was done in January this year. Ahead of the safety audit in June, 126 fire extinguishers were refilled, he says.

Days after the tragedy, a few small capacity extinguishers, manufactured in 2019, are placed outside the window of the SNCU. While the average life of an extinguisher is 10-12 years, the equipment requires annual servicing, usually signified by a sticker with details. Only two large extinguishers had stickers that said that they had been serviced and refilled in June 2024. They are valid until June next year. The rest did not have details about an expiry date.

Some people also allege that once the blaze grew, some staff members "fled the scene".

Dr. Sengar denies the charge. "There were eight staff members, including two doctors and two nurses, in the ward. They all saved babies," he says.

An overburdened hospital

The SNCU, which had 12 incubators, can admit 18 children, says Dr. Sengar. At the time of the incident, it had 49 infants. Hospital officials say that the count sometimes increases to nearly 60 – three times the limit.

It is common practice in hospitals in U.P. to fit two or three infants in a large incubator, Dr. Sengar says. In the medical college hospital, going by this calculation, some incubators had up to four.

Dr. Sengar says the SNCU had been in use for 12 years. A new 51-bed unit is under construction and is expected to begin operation in the next five months. He says most departments receive a high footfall as the hospital caters to the healthcare needs of at least 10-12 districts of the Bundelkhand region that covers parts of U.P. and Madhya Pradesh.

The patient influx has increased over the years. According to official data shared by Dr. Sachin Mahur, Chief Medical Superintendent of the medical college hospital, the patient footfall in the outpatient department and emergency wing was 6.4 lakh in 2023 compared to 4.9 lakh in 2022. This year, between January and August, it was already 4.14 lakh. Similarly, the number of patients who were admitted went up from 41,615 in 2022 to 49,089 in 2023; and 31,650 patients were already admitted till August this year.

As per 2021 data, U.P. has a doctor-patient ratio of 1:2,158, which is much higher than the national ratio of 1:836 and more than twice the World Health Organization norm of 1:1,000.

This burden reflects the lacklustre healthcare system across the Bundelkhand region and the high costs of private facilities. Dr. Sengar says he receives patients from districts including Jhansi, Mahoba, Lalitpur, Hamirpur, Jalaun, and Banda in U.P.; and Shivpuri, Datia, Chhatarpur, Tikamgarh, Panna, and Niwari in M.P. Patients and their families, most of them from poor socio-economic backgrounds from outside Jhansi, travel 80-250 kilometres to get to the hospital. They come mainly for critical care, he adds.

Why people came to Jhansi

Apart from Dharmendra and Bhagwati, Sanjana and Sonu Kushwaha, who are also from the Bar block of Lalitpur, lost their son in the fire. Both families ended up at Jhansi's medical college hospital after being denied treatment at the community health centre (CHC) in Bar and in government hospitals in Lalitpur city.

Sanjana's child could not be delivered at the CHC and she was referred to Lalitpur. "They did not have a bigger machine (in Lalitpur) to operate on him, so they asked us to take him to Jhansi," she says. Similarly, Bhagwati's son was referred to Laliput, as he had a fever.

While the CHC in Bar looks clean, the staff say it lacks many basic facilities, equipment, and even doctors. The CHC got an X-ray machine about two years ago but does not have a technician to operate it. A brand-new ultrasound machine set has been lying in its box for over six months. The CHC also does not have the reagent used for the blood tests, says senior treatment supervisor, Amit Singh.

A senior doctor at the CHC says the hospital also does not have a permanent MBBS female doctor for years; deliveries are done by the nursing staff. "If there is even a minor complication, we have no option but to refer the patient to another place," the doctor says.

> Our permanent paediatrician was posted here over two years ago but has barely visited the CHC. He runs his private practice in Banda and has 'managed' his attendance here
>
> **AMIT SINGH**
> Senior treatment supervisor, CHC, Bar

"Our permanent paediatrician was posted here over two years ago but has barely visited the CHC. He runs his private practice in Banda and has 'managed' his attendance here," says Singh.

The seeds of a tragedy

Days after the tragedy, at the medical college hospital, electricians install new transformers and workers paint corners and walls to cover the stains of *gutka* (flavoured tobacco). While some buildings in the premises appear new, older structures look worn out. Loose and naked wires hang on most of the walls of the C.V. Raman and Dhanvantri hostels for undergraduate male students. The plaster has come off at many places and so have bricks. Water drips out of the ceilings and walls in and around toilets – sometimes, dangerously close to electric wires.

"We have got our rooms repaired by spending our own money," says a third-year student.

While students say they are accustomed to living in these conditions, they admit that a minor trigger could turn into a tragedy. Barely 20 metres inside the C.V. Raman hostel, a wall is black. A student, who is rushing for class, says there was a short-circuit about two years ago.

Vinod Kumar, a cleaning worker at the hostel, says many posts of caretakers and cleaning staff have been vacant for years, but the "government takes its own time to recruit fresh people".

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From Page One

Adani energy firms' stocks sink further

"Nifty recorded the best single day gain since in over five months and cash market volumes inched up to ₹.1.01 lakh crore. Broad market indices rose less than the Nifty even as the advance decline ratio rose sharply," noted Deepak Jasani, head of retail research at HDFC Securities.

Global cues provided some relief as oil prices rose, with the Brent crude up 1.95% to $74.23 per barrel amid geopolitical tensions between Russia and Ukraine. The dollar index climbed to a 13-month high of 107, supported by strong labour market data in the U.S., while the Rupee appreciated marginally to close at 84.45 per dollar, from Thursday's record low of 84.5, pointed out Vikram Kasat, head-advisory at Prabhudas Lilladher.

Meanwhile, in a fresh setback to the Adani Group, S&P Global Ratings altered its outlook on three of its entities to "negative" from "stable" on Friday, citing risks to funding access following the U.S. indictment.

Climate talks at Baku run into overtime

"We will further engage with Parties to collectively agree on final adjustments to the few outstanding yet important issues. We will continue to work hard, inclusively and transparently, to press all sides for the highest ambition outcome possible," said a statement from the COP Presidency, led by Mukhtar Babayev, Azerbaijan's Ecology and Natural Resources Minister, late Friday.

The latest version of the text "...Calls on all actors to work together to enable the scaling up of financing to developing country Parties for climate action from all public and private sources to at least $1.3 trillion per year by 2035; In this context, decides to set a goal...with developed country Parties taking the lead, to $250 billion per year by 2035 for developing country Parties for climate action... from a wide variety of sources, public and private, bilateral and multilateral, including alternative sources."

"This is a bad deal for the developing world, irrespective of how it is going to be portrayed by the Presidency," said Vaibhav Chaturvedi, Senior Fellow, Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW). "The $1.3 trillion number is at best a sham. Even the apparent increase in the provision from developed world to developing world of $250 billion annually by 2035 is the same as the $100 billion by 2020 if 6% annual average inflation is accounted for. There is no grant or low cost finance component."

"This is quite a come down and a highly compromised version of the goal. Not only does this keep the core finance obligation subservient to the notional multilayered goal but weakens it by replacing the role of governments by 'actors' and further diluting the sources of core finance by including private funds. The level itself is disappointing and is lower than even what G20 had estimated," said R.R. Rashmi, a former Secretary to the Environment Ministry and Distinguished Fellow, The Energy Resources Institute.

Maharashtra and Jharkhand results today

Several candidates also visited the tents and met party workers, asking them to keep a close eye on the counting centres.

Chief Minister Hemant Soren of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha appealed for vigilance. "An appeal to all the hard-working colleagues of JMM and INDIA bloc is that tomorrow we have to be alert and vigilant and participate in the entire counting process at our respective counting centres. We have to stay firm until we get the certificate of victory," he said in a post on X.

BJP State unit president Babulal Marandi expressed confidence. "Based on the feedback we have received from the party workers at booth level, I am sure that the BJP-led NDA will win at least 51 seats," he said.

Votes will also be counted for the byelections conducted in 48 Assembly seats and two parliamentary constituencies in 15 States, including the Wayanad Lok Sabha constituency which Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra is contesting.

Humanoid teacher makes learning fun

Nova is a mannequin equipped with a speaker and microphone that works on GPT-4o, OpenAI's latest model that can provide customised learning experience using text, audio, and video. The humanoid can be connected to a projector so that the answers can be displayed on screen for the students to read.

"It mainly focuses on interaction to improve language skills. If the students request a story, the AI teacher will ask specific questions to know the type of story they want. At present the children can interact in four languages and in future we can add more based on the requirement," says Amesh Lal, who designed the humanoid.

"We are thinking about an advanced model with movement so that the teacher can walk to classrooms. Since it is a modest government school, we cannot currently afford that," he says.

SC does not entertain Punjab's plea in PM security lapse case

The Punjab govt. had sought statements of the witnesses recorded in the Justice Indu Malhotra Committee's confidential report in order to aid in taking action against the 'delinquent' officials

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court of India on Friday did not accede to a request by the Punjab Government to provide the statements of witnesses who appeared before the Justice Indu Malhotra Committee inquiring into a security lapse which left Prime Minister Narendra Modi's convoy stuck on a flyover in the State on January 5, 2022.

The Punjab government had sought the accurate statements of the witnesses recorded in the committee's confidential report on the incident in order to aid in taking actions against the "delinquent" officials.

"The State of Punjab may conduct the inquiry against delinquent officials without the aid of the statements of the witnesses... We find no grounds for entertaining the plea," a Bench headed by Justice Surya Kant observed.

At short notice: Prime Minister Narendra Modi's cavalcade stuck on a flyover, in Ferozepur in Punjab on January 5, 2022. PTI

In August 2022, the then Chief Justice N.V. Ramana after perusing the confidential report, had orally shared in open court that the committee had blamed a senior State police officer for failing to discharge his duty to maintain law and order despite the availability of sufficient personnel.

Law and order issues

"Ferozepur SSP failed to discharge his duty to maintain law and order. He failed to do this even though sufficient force was available and even though he was informed two hours before that the Prime Minister will enter that route," Chief Justice Ramana (now retired) had conveyed to the waiting lawyers after perusing the report of the Justice Malhotra Committee.

The Prime Minister's convoy was held up at a flyover owing to a blockade by protestors in Ferozepur after which he had to return from Punjab without attending events, including a rally. The terms of reference of the Justice Malhotra Committee, constituted by the Supreme Court, had included unearthing the causes for the breach; the persons responsible and to what extent; remedial measures to improve the security of the Prime Minister and other protectees; and any other recommendations for the security of constitutional functionaries.

New criminal laws need to be given a chance, says SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday said the new criminal laws need to be "given a chance" and citizens have a right to live free of crime.

A Bench headed by Justice Surya Kant was hearing a petition questioning the validity of provisions in the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 which replaced the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Penal Code.

The new laws came into effect from July 1.

The petitioner, Azad Singh Kataria, represented by senior advocate Menaka Guruswamy, argued that provisions in the new penal laws, especially the ones dealing with organised crime, removed essential procedural safeguards, which protected citizens against arbitrary arrest and official abuse of rights by the police.

"An undertrial can be put away in police custody for 60 days! The guidelines framed by the court on arrest and custody in the D.K. Basu case have been violated," Ms. Guruswamy submitted. She said the new laws violated the guarantees of "equality before the law and equal protection of the laws to all people".

The senior lawyer said even those held for pickpocketing could be charged under organised crime under the new provisions.

"Organised crime needs to be controlled in the interest of the society. People have a right to live without fear and be free of crime... Do you not see the violence committed in homes, on the streets, rowdy road rage incidents, criminal gangs emerging suddenly, child abductions, cyber crime... Parliament has given a pan-India law, should it not be given a chance?" the judge asked.

Centre deploys 90 more companies of CAPF in Manipur

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Manipur Security Adviser Kuldiep Singh said on Friday that the Central government has deployed 90 additional companies of central armed police force (CAPF), which is around 9,000 personnel, since August this year in the State.

At present, 288 companies of CAPFs, around 29,000 personnel, are deployed in Manipur, other than the State police, Army and the Assam Rifles.

Mr. Singh said at a press conference in Imphal that 32 people have been arrested for various incidents of arson and vandalism at the residences and properties of legislators and Ministers last week.

On November 16, a day after the discovery of bodies of three women and children, who were among six of a Meitei family abducted by armed militants during an encounter with security forces in Jiribam district, protesters stormed lawmakers' properties across party lines.

Mr. Singh said that a security review meeting was organised and combing operations are being held.

Mr. Singh added that the police will look into the allegations that a Meitei family was abducted in the presence of security forces. He said that on November 11, a CRPF post was attacked by armed militants and later it was found that six members of a family, three women and three children, were abducted by militants. In that incident, 10 militants were killed by CRPF and police.

Socialism in India means a welfare state, not a dictatorial dogma: CJI

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna on Friday said the idea of 'socialism' in India primarily meant a welfare state that provides equality of opportunity for all, and not a dictatorial dogma rammed down on citizens.

Heading a Bench comprising Justice Sanjay Kumar, the Chief Justice of India reasoned that the concept of socialism in India did not negate the participation of private players or negate individualism.

The Supreme Court was hearing a batch of petitions, one of them by BJP leader Subramanian Swamy, challenging the inclusion of the words 'socialist, secular' in the Preamble of the Constitution in 1976 with retrospective application. The petitioners have challenged the validity of Section 2 of the Constitution 42nd Amendment Act of 1976, and particularly the change in the Preamble. One of the petitioners argued that the dogma of socialism cannot prevail over other ideas, and it was wrong to force upon the nation one particular economic theory.

> Socialism here means that there should be equal opportunities for all; it never prevented the private sector from thriving here
>
> **SANJIV KHANNA**
> Chief Justice of India

Equality of opportunity

"Socialism here means a welfare state where there should be equality of opportunity for all. It has never prevented the private sector from thriving here. We have all benefited from the private sector... The idea of socialism runs through many Articles of the Constitution," Chief Justice Khanna responded.

Advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay, a petitioner, said the "Preamble is a statement of adoption of the Constitution by the Constituent Assembly on November 26, 1949, and cannot be changed as it is an unalterable fact". The inclusion in the Preamble was done without States's ratification, which reflected the "will of the people". Mr. Upadhyay contended that the changes made amounted to a "fraud on the Constitution". He pointed out that the 42nd Constitution Amendment Act was passed in the thick of the Emergency days when the "voice of the people was silenced".

But the Chief Justice firmly pointed out that socialism and secularism were part of the Basic Structure of the Constitution.

CPI leader and former Rajya Sabha member, Binoy Viswam, represented by advocate Sriram Parakkat, described the pleas as a ruse to remove 'socialist, secular' from the Preamble in order to campaign for votes in the name of religion. Mr. Parakkat said the top court had specifically banned seeking votes in the name of faith.

Last rites of Jiribam violence victims performed; 5-point charter submitted to CM

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

The last rites for nine victims of ethnic clashes in Manipur's Jiribam, including six women and children abducted and killed by extremists on November 11, were performed on Friday. All belonged to the Meitei community.

Officials in southern Assam's Cachar district said the bodies were handed over to the members of the victims' families from the morgue at the Silchar Medical College and Hospital in the morning. Manipur police personnel escorted the bodies to Jiribam, about 45 km from Silchar, on the Assam-Manipur border.

"We took custody of the bodies with a heavy heart and a demand for the government to punish the culprits who felt no remorse in killing women and children. They are nothing but terrorists and not village volunteers as some people claim," Elangbam D. Singh, the president of the Jiribam-based Jiri Development Organisation, said in Silchar. The organisation assisted the family in receiving the bodies and performing the last rites.

A photograph of the youngest victim of the recent violence in Jiribam. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Memorandum to CM

The families agreed to receive the bodies for the final rites after the Imphal-based Joint Action Committee (of civil society organisations) submitted a five-point memorandum to Chief Minister Nongthombam Biren Singh on Thursday. The committee's demands included the arrest of the perpetrators of the violence within 72 hours, *ex gratia* payment to the victims before the cremation, and suitable government jobs for the survivors of the deceased.

"The Chief Minister said it would be impossible to catch the killers within 72 hours and assured us that the case would be handed over to the National Investigation Agency instead," a spokesperson of the committee said, adding that the demands included putting a terrorist tag on a group of Hmar village volunteers that asked the Meiteis and the security forces to leave Jiribam.

Jiribam's Superintendent of Police Robinson Singh said the situation in the restive district has been under control over the last few days. "Since it is difficult for us to reach Imphal, we have been coordinating with the Cachar district police for night patrolling and vigil along the Assam-Manipur border," he said, acknowledging the cooperation from his Cachar counterpart Numal Mahatta.

He said the help from Cachar includes police intelligence and the use of Silchar Medical College and Hospital.

BJP accuses Cong. of encouraging foreign forces in Manipur

Devesh K. Pandey
NEW DELHI

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president J.P. Nadda on Friday accused the Congress of "endorsing and encouraging a nexus of foreign forces looking to derail India's progress", stating that the fallout of Congress government's failure to address local critical issues in the early 1990s was being felt in Manipur even today.

In a letter to Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, a reaction to Mr. Kharge's letter to President Droupadi Murmu on the issue of violence in Manipur, the BJP chief said he felt "compelled to respond to the incorrect, false and politically motivated narrative which your words fail to camouflage".

He stated, "It appears that you as well as your party seem to have conveniently forgotten the complete failure of government machinery and the ill-advised strategies adopted by Congress governments – both at the Centre and State – during similar incidents in the early 90s and during the UPA era."

"It appears that you have forgotten that not only did your government legitimise the illegal migration of foreign militants to India, Mr. P. Chidambaram – the erstwhile Home Minister – had signed treaties with them!" alleged Mr. Nadda, adding that the militant leaders were even encouraged to carry on their destabilising efforts.

Replying to Mr. Nadda's letter, Congress general secretary in-charge, communications, Jairam Ramesh said through a post on X that the letter was "full of falsehoods and a 4D exercise – denial, distortion, distraction, and defamation".

"Towards this end they are asking four simple questions: 1. When will the PM visit the State? 2. How much longer will the CM continue to be inflicted on the State, when a majority of MLAs are not in his support? 3. When will a full-time Governor for the State be appointed? And 4. When will the Union Home Minister take responsibility for his abject failures in Manipur?," he posted.

Manipur NPP tells members to avoid Biren govt. meetings

The Hindu Bureau
IMPHAL

The Manipur unit of the National People's Party (NPP) has instructed its members to avoid any meetings called by the Nongthombam Biren Singh-led government.

In an advisory issued on November 19, the party's State president, N. Kayisii, said it was crucial for all members to strictly adhere to Meghalaya Chief Minister and NPP national president Conrad K. Sangma's decision to withdraw support to the Biren Singh-led government. "Failure to adhere to these guidelines may result in disciplinary action, it could be perceived as undermining the party's position," he said.

Mr. Kayisii, who represents the Tadubi Assembly constituency, was one of four NPP legislators who skipped the meeting of NDA MLAs called by Mr. Singh on November 18. On November 17, Mr. Sangma withdrew support from the State government stating that Mr. Singh "completely failed" to resolve Manipur's ethnic conflict.

Take action and arrest Adani: Kharge to Modi govt.

Press Trust of India
BENGALURU

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Friday urged the Centre to immediately take action against Indian billionaire industrialist Gautam Adani, following his indictment in the U.S. in a bribery case.

Accusing Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his government of shielding Mr. Adani, he said the Congress will raise the issue during the upcoming Parliament session and demand an inquiry into the charges.

Noting that for five to six years, the Congress has raised the issue, he said, "They [Mr. Adani and company] are involved in corruption cases. But Modi does not even utter anything against him." "Home Minister Amit Shah has ED, CBI with him. Despite having all these agencies, why is no inquiry being done? Last time when we raised the issue following the Hindenburg report they were dismissive about it, saying it is a foreign thing, it is false." The Congress has been saying things against Mr. Adani, and will continue to say what it has to, Mr. Kharge added.

India-U.S. ties built on 'strong foundation', says White House

Aware of charges against the Adani Group, says Press Secretary while expressing confidence that 'we will continue to navigate this issue'

Press Trust of India
WASHINGTON

White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre speaks during the daily briefing at the White House in Washington, on Thursday. AP

Asserting that the relationship between India and the U.S. is built on a strong foundation, the White House has expressed confidence that it can navigate the ongoing crisis surrounding bribery charges against Indian billionaire Gautam Adani.

At her daily news conference, White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre told reporters on Thursday that the administration is aware of the charges against Mr. Adani.

Mr. Adani has been charged by U.S. prosecutors for allegedly being part of a scheme to pay over $250 million (about ₹2,100 crore) bribe to Indian officials in exchange for favourable terms for solar power contracts.

U.S. indictment

"Obviously we are aware of these allegations, and I would have to refer you to the SEC [Securities and Exchange Commission] and DOJ [Department of Justice] about the specifics of those allegations against the Adani Group," she said.

Strong ties

"What I will say is on the U.S. and India relationship, we believe that it stands on an extremely strong foundation anchored in ties between our people and cooperation across a full range of global issues," Ms. Jean-Pierre said.

"What we believe and we are confident about is that we will continue to navigate this issue as we have with other issues that may have come up as you just stated. And so the specifics of this, this is something that the SEC and DOJ can speak to directly, but again, we believe that... this relationship between India and the U.S. has been built on a strong foundation," the Press Secretary said.

BJD rejects claims of Adani paying bribes to Odisha officials

The Hindu Bureau
BHUBANESWAR

Pratap Keshari Deb

The Biju Janata Dal (BJD) on Friday termed the allegations about kickbacks paid or promised to government officials during the tenure of the Naveen Patnaik government to secure a renewable power supply agreement (PSA) with a company backed by the Adani Group as "baseless" and "incorrect".

The deputy chief whip of the BJD in the State Assembly, Pratap Keshari Deb, said, "This power purchase agreement made in 2021 was between two government agencies, Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI), a Central public sector undertaking and a mini-Navratna, and a State government PSU, GRIDCO, that is solely for the purpose of supply of renewable energy."

This is part of a Union government scheme called the manufacturing-linked solar scheme. "The agreement was to procure 500 MW of renewable energy from SECI at the lowest rates discovered by SECI and it was between two government entities. There was no engagement with any private party whatsoever, including the Adani Group," Mr. Deb said.

"In fact to fulfil the renewable energy commitments, the State has been procuring renewable energy from Central government PSUs like SECI and NTPC from 2011 onwards. Hence, these allegations with respect to Odisha are baseless and incorrect," he said.

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has claimed that bribes amounting to crores were paid or promised to officials in Odisha by the Adanis and other officials so that it enters into a PSA with the SECI for the purchase of 500 MW of power. The SEC said Odisha was among four States where the bribery scheme worked quickly and effectively.

INBRIEF

'Ayush campaign now has more than 4.7 lakh volunteers'

The Ayush Ministry's campaign to bring Ayurveda to every household now has more than 4.7 lakh dedicated volunteers, Union Minister of State Prataprao Jadhav said on Friday. The Desh Ka Prakriti Parikshan Abhiyan aims to empower citizens to understand their own *prakriti* – or their body type, according to Ayurveda – and adopt personalised preventive health practices. The initiative has grown significantly since it was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the ninth Ayurveda Day celebrations on October 29, Mr. Jadhav said, addressing a press conference on the programme's progress.

145 monkeys found buried inside FCI godown in U.P.

The Uttar Pradesh Police registered a case against unidentified persons after carcasses of 145 monkeys were allegedly found buried inside a Food Corporation of India godown in Hathras district over a week ago. On Friday, the police exhumed the carcasses from a pit on the premises. The police were acting on a complaint by a man, who said that he had received information from an FCI employee that the monkeys had been buried at the godown and that they had died after inhaling a chemical used for fumigation.

J&K government sets up panel to review reservation policy

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

Omar Abdullah

The Jammu and Kashmir government on Friday formed a sub-committee to review reservation in the Union Territory, in the wake of a growing demand from open category aspirants to look into the current policy of a 70% quota for the reserved categories.

"The Cabinet has decided to establish a three-member sub-committee of Ministers to take a holistic view of the reservation issue. They will review past actions, including recent Supreme Court directions, and evaluate whether the government's steps are aligned with those directives," Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said, after chairing a meeting of the State Cabinet. Reservation has emerged as a major issue in J&K after the Union government decided to add more communities to the reserved category list and expanded quotas in the Union Territory over the past five years.

"The need for this sub-committee arises after the concerns from the two sides: the open category youth who feel deprived of their rights and those already benefiting from reservations who fear losing their entitlements. The committee will provide recommendations for future decisions so that everyone's rights are protected," Mr. Abdullah said. He also directed his colleagues "to take necessary departmental actions within their Ministries to fulfill the promises outlined in the manifesto, with a strong emphasis on addressing unemployment."

Asked about the release of political prisoners, he said: "We need a State. At present, police, law and order, and security are with the Central government and are looked after by the Lieutenant-Governor."

However, he said that he had raised the issue of verification with the police department. "It has become a weapon of harassment. To a large extent, it has been stopped and there will be more relief in the future," he added.

Assembly resolution

Mr. Abdullah commented on the divergent stands of the National Conference and its ally, the Congress, on the resolution passed by the Assembly on J&K's special status. "The resolution has been passed. No one opposed it, which has opened a door. The Congress is not part of the government and has supported the NC from outside," he noted.

J&K leaders seek action over 'torture' of civilians

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

Several leaders in Jammu and Kashmir, including Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, Peoples Democratic Party president Mehbooba Mufti, and Kashmir's chief cleric Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, on Friday demanded action against Army personnel who allegedly tortured civilians in custody in Kishtwar district on Wednesday.

"I hope the Army will not show any laxity and conduct an investigation in a transparent manner. If there is evidence against them, they should be punished," Mr. Abdullah said.

Kishtwar residents alleged that the Army had rounded up youth in a village and tortured at least five of them in custody. The Army has ordered a probe into the incident. It said necessary follow-up action will be ensured.

Ms. Mufti said allegations of "severe torture have emerged from Kishtwar, taking us back to the disturbing events that took place in Bafliaz Surankote earlier this year".

"The disturbing images circulating in the media depicting severe torture marks on their bodies have raised significant concerns about human rights violations in the region. It has highlighted the ongoing issue of impunity and abuse of authority that has plagued the Kashmir conflict for decades," the Mirwaiz said.

Not aware of any link between Nijjar case and Modi: Canada

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

The Canadian government on Friday clarified that it was "not aware" of any evidence linking Prime Minister Narendra Modi, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, and National Security Adviser Ajit Doval with the June 2023 murder of pro-Khalistan activist Hardeep Singh Nijjar.

The clarification came a day after a Canadian news report based on disclosure from a national security official in Ottawa had linked the murder with the top Indian leadership saying that the killing of Nijjar was green-lighted by Home Minister Amit Shah with the support of Mr. Jaishankar, Mr. Doval and Mr. Modi.

However, the statement on Friday from Nathalie G. Drouin, Deputy Clerk of the Privy Council and National Security and Intelligence Advisor to the Prime Minister, described the information in the report as "speculative and inaccurate", adding, "On October 14th, because of a significant and ongoing threat to public safety, the RCMP and officials took the extraordinary step of making public accusations of serious criminal activity in Canada perpetrated by agents of the Government of India". India had reacted angrily to the Canadian news report terming it a smear campaign and calling it "ludicrous".

Day after Mamata rap, police arrest 2 Trinamool Congress leaders in smuggling cases

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

Mamata Banerjee

A day after Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee criticised the police for inaction, the West Bengal Police on Friday arrested two leaders of her party, Trinamool Congress, in connection with iron smuggling cases.

The police arrested a former councillor, Arubindo Nandi, and a Trinamool block vice-president, Rintu Panja, from Durgapur in Paschim Bardhaman district. In Asansol, Manoranjan Mondal, officer-in-charge of the Barabani police station, was suspended "pending departmental inquiry into his unprofessional conduct".

At a public meeting at the Secretariat on Thursday, the Chief Minister, who also holds the Home portfolio, said, "Lower-level officers, workers, and some police officers take bribes in [cases related to] smuggling of sand, coal, and cement."

She wondered why she and other politicians should shoulder the blame for the corruption of a certain section of police and office workers. Ms. Banerjee also said that anyone involved in such activities should be "grabbed by the collar and brought to justice because the law is the same for all".

Leader of the Opposition Suvendu Adhikari said the sudden administrative actions and Ms. Banerjee coming down on police officers were all an eyewash.

In the past few days, various Trinamool leaders have pointed fingers at the State police force for inaction.

भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, अंतरिक्ष विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
विक्रम साराभाई अंतरिक्ष केंद्र / VIKRAM SARABHAI SPACE CENTRE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण ग्रुप / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP
तिरुवनंतपुरम / THIRUVANANTHAPURAM – 22 / (फोन नं. / Ph. No. 0471 - 2564568 / 5669 / 4537 / 4545)

ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करते हुए संक्षिप्त सूचना / BRIEF NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER Dt. 21-11-2024

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से निम्नलिखित कार्य के लिए ई-टेंडरिंग द्वारा ऑनलाइन मद-दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। On behalf of the President of India, online item-rate tenders are invited through E-tendering for the following work.

1. टर्ल्स, वीएसएससी, तुंबा में स्पार्क सुविधाओं के लिए सर्विस रोडों (फेस-III) को बिटुमिनस सतह प्रदान करना (सड़क कार्य) / Providing bituminous surface for the service roads (Phase-III) for SPARC Facilities at TERLS, VSSC, Thumba (Road works) **NIT No. VSSC/CMG/C01/24/2024-25 Dt. 21.11.2024 (पी.ए.सी./P.A.C.: ₹69.85 लाख/Lakhs)**
2. आरवीटीजी परीक्षण नियंत्रण केंद्र (आरटीसीसी), टर्ल्स, वीएसएससी के लिए विद्युत कार्य / Electrical works for RVTG Test Control Centre (RTCC), TERLS, VSSC. **NIT No. VSSC/CMG/E01/22/2024-25 Dt. 21.11.2024 (पी.ए.सी./P.A.C.: ₹48.20 लाख/Lakhs)**
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डाउनलोड करने की अवधि/Period for downloading: दिनांक 22.11.2024, 17.00 बजे/hrs से/to दिनांक 05.12.2024, 23.00 बजे/hrs

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Sd/- ग्रुप निदेशक/ Group Director, सीएमजी, वीएसएससी/CMG, VSSC

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TECHNICIAN (1)	Total No. of Posts : 29 UR - 14 SC - 04 ST - 01 OBC - 08 EWS - 02	Level - 2	Rs.38,483/- * p.m. approx.. (inclusive of Basic Pay, DA, HRA, TA etc.)	28** years

(Out of the above 29 posts, 3 posts are reserved for Ex-Servicemen)

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INBRIEF

Nine persons booked for injuring tiger in Assam

Nine persons were booked in central Assam's Nagaon district for throwing stones at a tiger and potentially blinding the animal that strayed out of a jungle. According to Forest Department officials, the police searched the houses of the people for throwing stones at the tiger. They were identified from videos of the incident. Wildlife officials rescued the tiger, bleeding from several wounds, near a railway bridge on Wednesday. "People in the area surrounded the tiger and threw stones at it, causing injuries," one of the rescuers said, adding that the tiger was taken to the Centre for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation near the Kaziranga National Park about 60 km east of Jakhalabandha. "The tiger is recovering but we fear she may lose vision in one eye," Sonali Ghosh, director of Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve, said.

3 killed in gas leak at fertilizer plant in Maharashtra's Sangli

Three persons were killed and six injured following a gas leak at a fertilizer plant in Sangli district of Maharashtra, the police said on Friday. The incident occurred around 7 p.m. on Thursday at Myanmar Chemical Company in Kadegaon taluka. The injured were taken to a private hospital in Satara district, where three persons died of their injuries. The other injured are in critical condition, with burns, respiratory distress, eye irritation, and nausea. The owner's son is critical and undergoing treatment at a hospital in Pune, the police said. At least, five injured are in the ICU at Sahyadri Hospital. The police said the gas is suspected to be ammonia."We are yet to ascertain the reason for the leak, our technical team is in the process of inspection. We are also filing a complaint with Sections concerning negligence," Sangli Superintendent of Police Sandip Ghuge said.

Court flags lapses in implementation of GRAP-4 curbs in Delhi

SC says Delhi govt., police failed to keep vigil at 100 border entry points to the national capital, allowing banned vehicles to sneak into the city

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

According to *amici curiae*, 50% of pollution is caused by vehicles, especially trucks, coming into Delhi. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

The Supreme Court on Friday agreed to consider easing Graded Response Action Plan-4 (GRAP-4) restrictions in the national capital on November 25 after the Centre for Air Quality Management (CAQM) claimed the air quality in Delhi has entered a relatively easy-to-breathe GRAP-2 stage in the past two days.

A Bench headed by Justice A.S. Oka, however, issued a rider that its call on November 25 would depend on what its 13 Court Commissioners would report from their field visits to border entry points to the national capital.

The court discovered on Friday that 100 of a total 113 entry points to the national capital were left unmanned by the Delhi Police and the Delhi government, allowing polluting heavy trucks and vehicles registered outside Delhi to enter the city in violation of the GRAP-4 ban.

"Approximately 100 entry points were left unmanned since the beginning of GRAP-4 stage on November 18. It is apparent that, notwithstanding the orders of the Supreme Court and the directions of the CAQM, there was a failure on the part of the Delhi government and the police machinery to comply with the ban on polluting vehicles entering Delhi. They will be answerable to the court for not maintaining vigil at these 100 entry points," Justice Oka observed.

Amici curiae, senior advocate Aparijita Singh, and senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan, appearing for petitioners, jointly submitted that 50% of the local pollution was caused by vehicles, especially trucks coming into Delhi.

The court had formed a team of 13 young advocates to act as Court Commissioners to visit the border entry points on November 23 and report back on the GRAP-4 compliance levels at these border points.

Justice Oka, speaking for the Bench comprising Justice Augustine George Masih, said its decision to bring down the restrictions to GRAP-2 stage would depend on what these Commissioners had to say in their report.

The court ordered the police and the government to set up check points and deploy personnel, armed with a list of essential commodities permitted under GRAP-4, at all border points with immediate effect. It ordered the CCTV footage at 13 major entry points, available since November 18, to be handed over to the *amici curiae*.

Additional Solicitor-General Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for CAQM, urged the court to lower the bar to GRAP-2. "Yesterday and today, we entered the GRAP-2 stage. But since the court is intervening, we have not eased GRAP-4... We are below 400 [Air Quality Index]," she said.

Agriculture, services sector offer skilling opportunities: study

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Improving employability skills among youth is key to helping them find jobs across sectors.

Service sector jobs and agriculture income enhancement present large opportunities for school-based skilling, according to "Jobs at Your Doorsteps," a skill gap study prepared by the World Bank based on availability of skill education and jobs in Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Rajasthan.

The study also found that 14 sectors and corresponding trades can cater to majority of high demand jobs for school to work. The report was released here on Friday by Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and Union Labour Minister Mansukh Mandaviya.

The study examined key questions such as how can the skill education be scaled and strengthened and which skills should be offered considering local economic needs.

In the agriculture sector, the study found more opportunities across jobs and an income enhancement in own farms along with possibilities of entrepreneurship. The study also suggested that the State and Central governments can focus on horticulture and gardening, dairy farming and livestock health and aquaculture and fisheries for generating more jobs. The mining sector, however, did not emerge as significant employer from school-to-work perspective due to hazardous environment and high demand of unskilled labour, according to the study.

In the secondary sectors, the manufacturing sector, both the MSMEs and large industries, provided medium level opportunities after skilled schooling. The MSMEs showed interest in hiring and offering growth/pay but wanted multi-skill exposure. Big industry employers "will hire only if a proper certification (ideally equivalent to ITI) and equal amount of focus and skill building happens in school. Further, they are open to collaborate on curricula design, guest lectures etc. for interest in hiring and offering growth/pay," the study said.

In the tertiary sector, the service sectors, large opportunities were found in retail, IT, banking, among others requiring exposure to multi skills/ knowledge – consistent across the country. "Employability skills is a sought-after common requirement across sectors," the study added.

Rahul calls on MPs for discussion on air pollution

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Terming air pollution in North India a "national emergency", Rahul Gandhi, Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, urged his colleagues in Parliament to come together to discuss during the upcoming Winter Session how the country can end the crisis once and for all.

Mr. Gandhi shared his views in a post on X, along with a video of his discussion with environmentalist Vimlendu Jha.

He wrote that it is a public health crisis and an environmental and economic disaster that is ruining countless lives.

"The poorest among us suffer the most, unable to escape the toxic air that surrounds them. Families are gasping for clean air, children are falling sick and millions of lives are being cut short. Tourism is declining and our global reputation is crumbling," he said.

"The cloud of pollution covers hundreds of kilometres. Cleaning it up will need major changes and decisive action - from governments, companies, experts and citizens. We need a collective national response, not political blame games," he said. "As Parliament meets in a few days, MPs will all be reminded of the crisis by our irritated eyes and sore throats. It is our responsibility to come together and discuss how India can end this crisis once and for all," Mr. Gandhi added.

'Design changes likely to hike cost of Vande Bharat Sleeper train production'

Maitri Porecha
MOSCOW

The production of the first prototype of Vande Bharat Sleeper coaches by Kinet, a joint venture (JV) between Russian transportation firm Transmashholding (TMH) and Indian PSU Rail Vikas Nigam, has been delayed after the Indian Railways demanded that the JV go back to the drawing board to incorporate design changes in coaches.

In an interview, TMH CEO Kirill Lipa said that following a back-and-forth exercise with the Railways over six months, Kinet has now presented a new technical-commercial offer for the production of Vande Bharat Sleeper train sets, which will likely see a potential escalation in costs.

The total cost of the Vande Bharat Sleeper project is $6.5 billion, which includes approximately $1.7 billion for the manufacture of the rolling stock and $4.8 billion for its maintenance over 35 years.

In a response to *The Hindu*, the Railway Ministry confirmed that Kinet's response to the Railways' request for technical modifications is under examination by the Ministry.

Mr. Lipa said the TMH consortium won the tender with an approximately 15% advantage in cost to its closest competitor; so the cost hike after the design changes would not be beyond this ceiling.

Mr. Lipa said this issue was also raised in the meeting of India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission held earlier in November. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and Russia's First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov attended the meeting.

The contract between Kinet and the Railways was signed on September 27, 2023. Kinet submitted designs of the first prototype in May.

"On May 24, we received an official letter from the Indian Railways that requested to change the composition and certain internal features of coaches. We would have liked to start the production by end of this year, but we are now waiting for the Indian Railways' response to our new techno-commercial offer," Mr. Lipa said.

A Vande Bharat train with sleeper facility seen at the Integral Coach Factory in Perambur, Chennai on October 23, 2024. PTI

Before the change of scope notice by the Railways, Mr. Lipa said the project schedule demanded that two prototypes should be ready by 2025-end, and the production of the rolling stock as well as maintenance should start in 2026. "If Indian Railways will postpone this process, it will definitely lead to postponement of its execution. For the timeline, we are in the hands of the customer. We need to have clear a technical design first of all," Mr. Lipa reiterated.

Each train set is currently supposed to cost around ₹120 crore, and the contract demands delivery of 120 train sets.

Instead of 120 trains of 16-car each, the Railways has now asked for 80 trains consisting of 24 cars each. "Kinet has to supply a total of 1,920 Vande Bharat sleeper coaches, and first prototype has to be supplied with 24 months of signing contract in September last year," the Railway Ministry response stated.

Instead of three lavatory rooms per car, the Railways has now asked for four lavatories per car. While earlier there was no mention of a pantry car, the Railways has now asked for the inclusion of a pantry. It has also asked to add luggage zones in each end car of each train, which was earlier not included.

Mr. Lipa said, "Now to incorporate these changes we need to change the whole layout in terms of windows and seats. The creation of pantry should be according to the standards with certain anti-fire systems."

"For operations of the pantry, you need electricity, heating, water supply. So it means redesigning certain cables and the certain pipes which will deliver these elements to the coach. These changes need time and budget," he said.

In a response to *The Hindu*, the Railway Ministry confirmed that the design changes were demanded.

Mr. Lipa said that in order to incorporate these changes, an additional agreement will have to be signed which will be legally binding and the production schedule would have to be adjusted to take account of the new inputs.

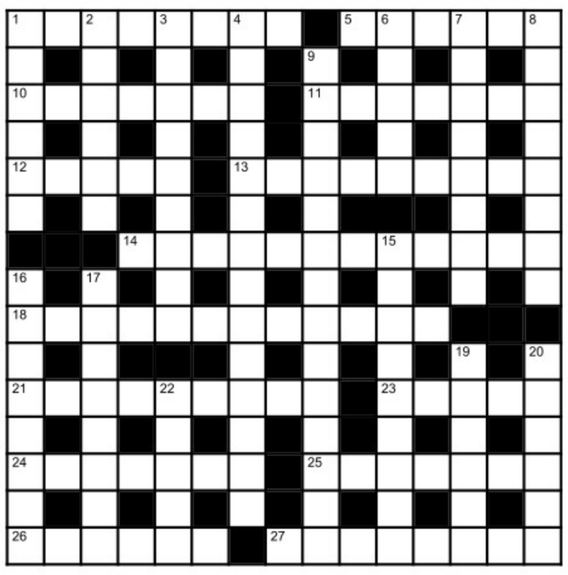
(The correspondent was in Russia at the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Russia, and Transmashholding)

TH CROSSWORD + 14338

(set by Dr. X)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Intoxicated star can't perform (8)
5/14 Chair for person who seems to be a permanent feature (4,2,3,9)
10 Dash back with money to get one cocktail (7)
11 Bullies kiss model in store! Beaten up (7)
12 Lounging somewhat drunkenly in Goa (5)
13 Sound of fine ace with flute, remarkable (9)
14 See 5
18 Head of cardiology handed over pictures featuring advanced birth defects (5,7)
21 Superficial Republican incites animatedly to secure vote (9)
23 Came back around noon on a two-wheeled Indian vehicle (5)
24 Cherry is fresh, doubly large and round (7)
25 Story of a nobleman smuggling cocaine (7)
26 Vegetable and bit of rice on a plate (6)
27 Following error, having discussion with leader of group (8)

Down

1 Member captivated by idol put up near extremely large place of worship (6)
2 Alarmed by an invasion to capture France (6)
3 Projectile weapon in ship to catch fish, sharp (9)
4 Leader of China wrongly imprisons a foe for violent offence (5,2,7)
6 Want ice to conduct prank (5)
7 Twisting out of shoulder - ultimately excruciating (8)
8 Old soldier with rifle, roaming outside American institute (8)
9 Theatrical presentation by character touring France and Rome, fantastic (11,3)
15 Like Iceland - it's extraordinary (9)
16 Caught by fielder at last! Hugged by bowler for especially difficult catch (8)
17 Refreshed by old wine after nap (8)
19 Quash essentially illicit rings (6)
20 Unkempt rogue stealing girl's silver (6)
22 Relaxes in exotic isle, cuddling date (5)

SUDOKU

7	1				9	6		
4					5		9	
		6				1		
	2				7	3		
6		4				5		7
		3	4				2	
		2				4		
	4		8					3
		1	2				5	9

No.SS6348 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

B	O	U	N	D	A	R	Y	U	P	L	A	N	D
R	■	N	■	O	■	E	■	B	■	A	■	N	■	I
O	G	D	E	N	■	C	H	A	R	I	T	I	E	S
N	■	E	■	T	■	E	■	G	■	N	■	M	■	A
T	H	R	U	M	M	I	N	G	■	T	W	A	N	G
E	■	L	■	A	■	V	■	E	■	T	■	■	■	R
■	T	I	C	K	L	E	■	D	E	H	I	S	C	E
A	■	N	■	E	■	■	■	■	■	E	■	K	■	E
L	E	G	U	M	E	S	■	C	U	T	S	I	N	■
L	■	■	■	E	■	E	■	A	■	O	■	N	■	S
E	N	R	O	L	■	T	H	R	E	W	A	F	I	T
R	■	E	■	A	■	T	■	R	■	N	■	L	■	O
G	R	A	D	U	A	L	L	Y	■	R	E	I	G	N
E	■	L	■	G	■	E	■	O	■	E	■	N	■	E
N	Y	M	P	H	S	■	U	N	E	D	I	T	E	D

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

3	9	8	7	1	4	6	2	5
4	1	6	2	8	5	3	9	7
2	7	5	6	3	9	8	1	4
6	2	7	8	9	1	4	5	3
8	3	1	4	5	2	9	7	6
5	4	9	3	6	7	1	8	2
7	6	2	9	4	8	5	3	1
9	5	4	1	2	3	7	6	8
1	8	3	5	7	6	2	4	9

FAITH

Path to self-realisation

Lord Shiva Himself manifested as Sri Adisankara. With his commentaries on the Upanishads, the Brahma Sutras, and the Bhagavad Gita, Sri Adisankara presented a vibrant Advaita philosophy to the world.

The Sankaracharya of Sringeri Math Sri. Vidusekara Swamigal said in an anugraha bhashanam that the Advaita philosophy is the essence of millions of granthas. The basic message of Sri Adisankara's philosophy is the concept of oneness. The Supreme Being, Brahmam, alone is true. The Jivatmas are immersed in ignorance and delusion from time immemorial. By realising the true nature of Brahmam, a person can liberate himself.

Four sequences or steps are prescribed in the process of self-realisation, known as "Sadhana Chatushayam". The first is known as "vivekam". It is the ability to discriminate between right and wrong, real and unreal. The next is "vairagyam", known as detachment. It refers to freedom from the desire for material enjoyments that arise from the knowledge of the impermanence of material life. Forbearance to the vagaries of life is essential. The third is called "shamadi shatkam". It has six elements. "Shamam" – controlling the mind. "Dhamam" – controlling the sensual faculties. "Uparathi" – deserting all the unwanted. "Thithiksha" – to be focused on our goal of realising the Brahmam. "Sraddha" – having unshaken faith and confidence, and "Samadhanam" – to listen to what is being taught by gurus with all focus. Total faith in the guru and the scriptures is imperative for spiritual progress. Finally, there should be intense longing for liberation – "Mumukshuthvam".

INBRIEF

NTPC Green IPO subscribed 2.4 times on final day

The initial public offering of NTPC Green Energy Ltd. was subscribed 2.40 times on the final day of bidding. Qualified institutional buyers (QIBs) bid 3.32 times the issue size. Demand was seen the most among retail investors as the category bid for more than 3.44 times the issue size. Bids for the energy PSU's ₹10,000-crore initial public offering (IPO) were open between November 19 and November 22. The price band was fixed between ₹102 per share and ₹108 per share.

NTPC Green Energy inks pact for ₹2 lakh cr. projects in A.P.

NTPC Green Energy Ltd. has signed an agreement with New and Renewable Energy Development Corporation of Andhra Pradesh (NREDCAP) to set up renewable energy projects worth ₹2 lakh crore, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu said in a post on X on Thursday. The collaboration will focus on developing 25 GW solar/wind, 10 GW pumped storage projects (PSPs), and 0.5 MMTPA green hydrogen, the Chief Minister added. PTI

RBI slaps ₹61 lakh fine on RBL bank for KYC violations

The Reserve Bank of India has directed RBL Bank to pay a fine of ₹61.4 lakh for violating its 'Know Your Customer' directions, noting the lender did not obtain officially valid documents while opening certain credit card accounts and was found allotting multiple customer identification codes to certain customers instead of an unique customer identification code for each customer. The RBI had sent a show-cause notice to RBL and levied the fine after a reply and personal hearing.

Flash PMI signals Nov. private sector activity at three-month high

Input cost surge compels highest price hikes in almost 12 years; manufacturing growth slows in Nov., but new orders perk up again

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Spiralling costs: Inflation crimped the upside as manufacturers reported higher prices for a range of raw materials. BIJOY GHOSH

Activity levels across India's private sector are seeing a modest uptick this month, even as cost pressures have surged to a 16-month high for both services and manufacturing players, compelling them to raise prices charged to customers at a pace not seen since February 2013, as per the HSBC Flash India Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI).

However, manufacturing sector growth slipped lower this month, while services growth ticked upwards. The Flash PMI is an early economic indicator for an ongoing month, based on 80% to 90% of responses to a private survey of purchasing managers across 400-odd companies in manufacturing and services sectors conducted by S&P Global Market Intelligence.

The HSBC Flash India Composite Output Index, that combines responses from services firms and goods producers, rose to 59.5 in November, a three-month high, from a final PMI reading of 59.1 in October. PMI readings of over 50 indicate an expansion in activity.

HSBC Flash India Manufacturing PMI cooled to 57.3 in November, marginally lower than October's 57.5 reading. However, compared with services providers, goods producers saw a faster upturn in new orders for the third straight month amid strong demand conditions and rising export orders.

Bolsters job creation

The uptick in new business bolstered this month's job creation among surveyed services firms to the highest level recorded since this data became available in December 2005.

However, inflation crimped the upside as manufacturers reported higher prices for a range of raw materials, including aluminium, cotton, leather and rubber, while services firms weighed in on greater food costs, particularly for cooking oils, eggs, meat and vegetables, and higher wage bills.

"In response to rising operating costs, private sector companies in India hiked their selling charges again during November. The rate of inflation was sharp and the fastest in just under 12 years. Firms suggested that demand strength allowed them to pass on additional cost burdens to their clients," S&P Global noted.

November's initial PMI findings also indicate a rebound in business confidence levels, with firms' expectations on future output at a six-month peak.

"India's flash composite PMI moderately expanded from a final reading of 59.1 in October to 59.5 this month. Services saw a pick-up in growth, while the manufacturing sector managed to outperform expectations despite a marginal slowdown from its October final PMI reading. Meanwhile, price pressures are rising for raw materials used by manufacturers, as well as food and wage costs in the services sector," said Pranjul Bhandari, chief India economist at HSBC.

Forex reserves see sharpest weekly drop on record, hit over four-month low

Reuters
MUMBAI

India's foreign exchange reserves logged their sharpest weekly fall on record to a more-than-four-month low last week, as the dollar strengthened following the U.S. election verdict, and the central bank sold from its reserves to limit the rupee's decline.

The reserves fell by $17.8 billion in the week of November 15 – the most since available data starting 1998 – to $657.89 billion, data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) showed on Friday. Forex reserves have fallen by a total of nearly $30 billion in the last six weeks and are down by $47 billion from the record high of $704.89 billion hit in late September.

Changes in foreign currency assets are caused by the central bank's intervention in the forex market as well as the appreciation or depreciation of foreign assets held in the reserves.

The outcome of the U.S. elections boosted the dollar and U.S. bond yields, leading to revaluation losses. Revaluation loss for the reporting week is estimated at $10.4 billion, while the RBI may have net sold dollars worth $7.2 billion in the week of November 15, said Gaura Sen Gupta, India economist at IDFC FIRST Bank.

The rupee fell to its then-record low of 84.41 last week against the dollar. The currency settled at 84.44 on Friday, after hitting an all-time low of 84.50 earlier in the session. Persistent outflows from Indian equities have also kept the rupee under pressure.

Foreign investors have net sold local stocks and bonds worth more than $4 billion in November so far, after withdrawing $11.7 billion in October.

The central bank's repeated intervention in the forex market limited a knee-jerk reaction in the local currency market, traders said.

'Robust reserves'

"Despite the recent decline, we believe that India's forex reserves remain robust in terms of all external adequacy requirements with the import cover comfortably placed at over 11-months," said Aditi Gupta, economist at Bank of Baroda.

Ms. Gupta expects forex reserves to rise to about $675-685 billion by March amid a revival in foreign inflows and a manageable current account deficit.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	FRIDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	79,117	2.54
US Dollar	84.41	0.10
Gold	80,400	1.38
Brent oil	75.02	1.55

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2228.00	44.35
Adani Ports	1136.75	22.10
Apollo Hosp	6935.10	192.60
Asian Paints	2472.20	44.05
Axis Bank	1142.40	3.25
Bajaj Auto	9481.65	-23.35
Bajaj Finserv	1600.85	31.60
Bajaj Finance	6683.95	218.30
Bharat Elec	280.85	5.40
Bharti Airtel	1569.30	44.15
BPCL	285.85	3.45
Britannia Ind	4848.35	45.00
Cipla	1486.50	21.00
Coal India	414.05	8.05
Dr Reddys Lab	1214.45	19.10
Eicher Motors	4986.20	104.10
Grasim Ind	2598.65	63.80
HCL Tech	1898.40	62.05
HDFC Bank	1745.60	4.40
HDFC Life	688.20	13.80
Hero MotoCorp	4794.10	26.25
Hindalco	652.10	4.05
Hind Unilever	2445.25	62.45
ICICI Bank	1278.05	27.50
IndusInd Bank	998.20	16.75
Infosys	1902.25	68.20
ITC	474.65	17.50
JSW Steel	977.35	33.20
Kotak Bank	1761.45	24.35
L&T	3603.50	120.00
M&M	3012.95	76.70
Maruti Suzuki	11063.60	202.15
NestleIndia	2247.30	36.10
NTPC	365.45	9.30
ONGC	245.60	3.45
PowerGrid Corp	336.95	11.05
Reliance Ind	1265.40	42.40
SBI Life	1485.15	7.20
State Bank	816.05	35.30
Shriram Finance Ltd.	2850.05	47.85
Sun Pharma	1795.30	15.30
TataConsumerProduct	945.20	33.50
Tata Motors	791.00	17.15
Tata Steel	142.78	2.56
TCS	4244.60	171.75
Tech Mahindra	1747.45	45.20
Titan	3308.70	130.25
Trent Ltd.	6652.80	192.35
UltraTech Cement	11375.30	420.45
Wipro	571.65	14.50

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on November 22

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	84.25	84.57
Euro	87.74	88.07
British Pound	105.41	105.82
Japanese Yen (100)	54.57	54.78
Chinese Yuan	11.62	11.67
Swiss Franc	94.78	95.14
Singapore Dollar	62.50	62.75
Canadian Dollar	60.19	60.42
Malaysian Ringitt	18.84	18.91

Source:Indian Bank

S&P lowers outlook on three Adani units after U.S. indictment of founder

Reuters

S&P Global Ratings lowered its outlook on three Adani Group entities to 'negative' from 'stable' on Friday, citing risks to funding access following a U.S. indictment of the conglomerate's billionaire founder, Gautam Adani, on bribery charges.

Adani and seven other people, including his nephew Sagar, were indicted on Thursday for fraud by U.S. prosecutors for their alleged roles in a $265 million scheme to bribe Indian officials to secure power-supply deals.

Adani Group has said the accusations levelled by U.S. federal prosecutors, as well as those by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in a parallel civil case, are "baseless and denied" and that it will seek "all possible legal recourse."

The U.S. indictment could affect investor confidence in other Adani Group entities, as the founder sits on the boards of other companies within the group, potentially impairing their access to funding and increasing funding costs, S&P Global Ratings said in a note.

'Group limits'

"The group will need regular access to both equity and debt markets given its large growth plans, in addition to its regular refinancing. We believe domestic, as well as some international banks and bond market investors look at Adani entities as a group and could set group limits on their exposure," S&P said. S&P revised the outlook on a unit of Adani Green Energy , the entity linked to the allegations, to 'negative' from 'stable'.

Adani Electricity and Adani Ports were also downgraded to 'negative', S&P said, adding that ratings on the three entities could go lower if allegations are proven true.

Cash flows of the group entities are expected to be materially affected due to an anticipated weakness in funding access, S&P Ratings added.

Bonds and most stocks of the Adani Group dropped for a second session on Friday after the indictment.

RBI nod for Central Bank of India's foray into insurance via JV

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The bank's proposed foray is through a joint venture with the Generali Group. REUTERS

The Central Bank Of India has received the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) approval for its proposed foray into life and non-life insurance business through a joint venture with the Generali group.

The RBI on November 21 approved the bank's entry in the insurance business, through a joint venture with the Generali group under Future Generali India Insurance Company (FGIICL) and Future Generali India Life Insurance Company (FGILICL), subject to continuous compliance of conditions stipulated by it, and approval of sectoral regulator IRDAI, Central Bank of India said in a filing on Friday.

This follows the Committee of Creditors for sale of Category 1 assets of Future Enterprises' stake in FGILICL and FGIICL, naming the State-owned lender a successful bidder in August. In October, the Competition Commission of India had approved the deal.

Govt. notifies telecom cybersecurity rules

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Centre has notified the telecom cyber security rules, that aim to safeguard India's communication networks and services, through a host of measures including specified timelines for telcos to report security incidents and make disclosures.

The rules also empower the central government/ its authorised agency to seek traffic data and any other data (other than the content of messages) from a telecom entity for the purpose of ensuring cyber security.

The rules clearly outline telecom cyber security obligations. Telecom entities would be required to appoint a Chief Telecommunication Security Officer, and report security incidents within six hours to the Centre along with "relevant details of the affected system including the description of such incident."

In 24 hours of becoming aware of the security incident, telecom entities would be required to furnish information on a number of users affected, duration, geographical area, the extent to which functioning of the network or service is affected; and the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken.

As per the rules, a manufacturer of equipment that has an International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) number, will register the number of such equipment manufactured in India with the government, before the first sale of such equipment.

इण्डियन ओवरसीज़ बैंक
Indian Overseas Bank
आपकी प्रगति का सच्चा साथी Good people to grow with
Information Technology Department
Central Office: 763, Anna Salai, Chennai – 600 002

Indian Overseas bank (IOB) invites bids for the following:

GOVERNMENT E-MARKET PORTAL- PROVIDING FACILITY MANAGEMENT SERVICE FOR MANAGING WEBEX/ VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING IN BANK'S CENTRAL OFFICE

BID NO: GEM/2024/B/5622331 DATED: 19.11.2024

The Above GEM Tender document is also available and can be downloaded from the following websites **www.iob.in** & **www.gem.gov.in** For Tender details and future amendments, if any, keep referring to the following website **www.gem.gov.in**

Government of Odisha, e-Procurement Notice
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
Bid Identification No. C.C.E.Dkl.(R&B) 11/2024-25 Email Id- **sedklpwd@gmail.com**
Letter No. 2265 / Dt. 16/11/2024

The Chief Construction Engineer, Dhenkanal (R&B) Circle, Dhenkanal on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites Percentage Rate bids in double cover system to be received in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for Road works as detailed below:

1.	Name of the work	: **Road works**
2.	No. of works	: **02 (Two) Nos.**
3.	Estimated Cost	: **Rs. 1.19 Crore to 3.08 Crore (as given in column No.03 of table)**
4.	Cost of tender paper	: **Rs. 10,000.00**
5.	Class of contractor	: **'B' Class & 'A' Class (as given in column No.07 of table)**
6.	Period of Completion of work	: **05 (Five) to 06 (Six) (as given in column No.08 of table)**
7.	Date and time of availability of bid Document in the website	: **From Dt.25.11.2024 to 5.00 P.M. of Dt.09.12.2024**
8.	Date of opening of bid	: **Dt.10.12.2024 at 11.00 A.M.**

The bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal : **www.tendersodisha.gov.in** Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Sd/- Chief Construction Engineer, Dhenkanal(R&B) Circle, Dhenkanal
B-631 OIPR-34132/11/0019/2425

TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF ANDHRA PRADESH LIMITED
e-Procurement TENDER NOTICE

APTRANSCO invites bids online for the following work. Spec No. APT-e-41/2024 for "Supply, Laying, Testing and commissioning of 220 KV, 1000 sq.mm XLPE U/G Copper Cable with associated accessories including services for Jointing, Terminations, Site Testing and Commissioning the complete Cable System for diversion of 220KV VTS-Podili DC line (UG cable-19KM), 220KV VTS-Tallapalli Ckts I&II (UG cable -11KM), 220KV VTS-Tallapalli Ckts III&IV(UG cable-11KM) and 220KV VTS- Tadikonda Ckts I&II (UG cable-14KM) which are passing across the Seed Capital Region (From N10 to End of CRDA Limits) on turnkey basis in Guntur District" Date & availability of tenders in **http://www.apeprocurement.gov.in** from **22.11.2024**. Phone: 9490153087, 7337383868.
DIPR 3321PP/CL, Dt.22/11/2024 **Sd/- Chief Engineer, Projects**

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL, RNT MEDICAL COLLEGE & CONTROLLER ASSOCIATED GROUP OF HOSPITALS, UDAIPUR (RAJ.)
No. RNT/Pur-I/F.16/(e-Tendering Proc)/2024-25/585 Dated:- 13.11.2024
Notice Inviting Bid No.07/2024-25(e-Tender)
Bids for Medical Equipments are invited from interested bidders upto Date: 16.12.2024 Time:- 10.30 AM. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state.
UBN- MCU2425GLOB00068, MCU2425GLOB00069, MCU2425GLOB00070, MCU2425GLOB00071, MCU2425GLOB00072
DIPR/C/11408/2024 PRINCIPAL & CONTROLLER

OFFICE OF MEMBER SECRETARY, RAJASTHAN MEDICARE RELIEF SOCIETY SUPER SPECIALITY HOSPITAL, UDAIPUR
No./RMRS/2024-25/322 *Dated:16-11-24*
NIB NO.MCU2425A0050
Tender no: 57/16-11-2024
Following Bids at Member Secretary, RMRS, Super Speciality Hospital, Udaipur are invited from interested bidder.

Rate contract of pacemaker and related cardiac items	UBN - MCU2425GLRC00073

Other particular of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in of the state.
Member Secretary
DIPR/C/11491/2024 **Rajasthan Medicare Relief Society, SSH, Udaipur**

Government of Rajasthan
Local Self Government Department
(Directorate of Local Bodies, Rajasthan, Jaipur)
G-3, Rajmahal Residency, Near Civil lines, Railway Crossing, Jaipur
Tel No.:+91 141 2222469 Fax No.: +91 141 2222403 web site: www.lsg.urban.rajasthan.gov.in
No. F 55 () PA/CE/DLB/SBM2.0/Processing of waste/2024/ 104739 Date 24/10/2024
Notice Inviting Bids (NIB)
UBN No: DLB2425WLOB11208/DLB2425WLOB11209/DLB2425WLOB11212 DLB2425WLOB11214/ DLB2425WLOB11215/ DLB2425WLOB11216
Online Technical and Financial Bids in Single Stage two envelops are invited on behalf of Governor of Rajasthan by Directorate of Local Bodies for Design, Construction, Establishment and Development of Solid Waste Processing Plant (Compost + RDF) in Cluster - 16 to 21 for 23 towns scalable further as per the requirements with Operation & Maintenance for 20 years on VGF basis as per Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 as Amended time to time and Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) 2.0 guidelines for Various ULBs (23 Towns comprising in Cluster - 16 to 21) **up to 25/11/2024.**
Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the Procurement Portal (http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in) of the State; and LSG Department website. The approximate value of the procurement is **Rs 2937.28 Lac.**
DIPR/C/11465/2024 **Director cum Special Secretary**

Directorate Animal Husbandary, Jaipur
क्रमांकः एफ.9(210)लेखा/क्रय-ब/निदयो (सर्जिकल कन्ज्यूमेबल)/2024-26/2030 दिनांक :-14/11/24
Notice Inviting Bid
Bid for Purchase of Surgical and Consumable for Year 2024-26 is invited from bidders upto 05-12-2024 (03.00PM). Other Particulars of the Bid may be visited on the procurement portal **(https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in)** of the State; and Departmental Website (https://animalhusbandry.rajasthan.gov.in). The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 10.91 Crore.
UBN No.: ANH2425GLRC00210
DIPR/C/11419/2024 **Director**

Office of the Executive Engineer Water Resources Div II Bhilwara
No./Acctt./2024/3661 Dt. 15/11/24
NOTICE INVITING BID No. 07/2024-25
NIB No. WRD2425A0305
Bids for the work of Renovation of Dam and Canals of Motipura Dam District Bhilwara Rs. 263.55 lacs is invited from interested bidders upto 6:00 PM Date 09.12.2024
Other particulars of the bid may visited on the procurement portal sppp.raj.nic.in, eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and Water Resources Departmental website.
UBN No. WRD2425WSOB01187 **Executive Engineer**
DIPR/C/11458/2024 **Water Resources Div II Bhilwara**

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग वृत, सिरोही
क्रमांक :– एकाउंट/निविदा/2024–25/2464 दिनांक : 14.11.2024
निविदा सूचना संख्या–06/2024–25
NIB Code PWD2425A2661
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(एस.एम. वर्मा)
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DIPR/C/11440/2024

MOSCOW

Russia needs migrants to fill labour shortage, says Kremlin spokesman

REUTERS

Russia needs migrants in order to develop because of its dwindling domestic workforce, Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said in an interview published on Friday. Anti-migrant rhetoric is common in Russia, especially towards labourers from ex-Soviet republics in Central Asia who fill key sectors of the economy. AFP

GENEVA

WHO keeps Mpox at highest alert level as number of cases rises

REUTERS

The World Health Organisation said on Friday it had decided to keep the alert for the Mpox epidemic at its highest level, as the numbers of cases and countries affected rises. "The decision was based on the rising number and continuing geographic spread of cases, and the need to mount a cohesive response," it said. AFP

SEOUL

South Korea says Russia supplied air defence missiles to North Korea

AFP

Russia has supplied air defence missile systems to North Korea in exchange for sending its troops to support Russia's war efforts against Ukraine, national security adviser for South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol, Shin Wonsik, said on Friday. Experts speculate Russia has likely sent S-400 long-range missiles. AP

PESHAWAR

Pakistani city mourns 42 Shia Muslims killed in a gun attack

AFP

Protesters in Pakistan's Kurram chanted anti-government slogans on Friday as funeral prayers were held for 42 Shia Muslims who were ambushed and killed by gunmen a day earlier in one of the region's deadliest such assaults in recent years. The victims were travelling in a convoy of several vehicles when the attack took place. AP

Israel strikes Gaza after ICC issues arrest warrant against Netanyahu

The military said an air strike on the territory's north killed five Hamas militants, including two company commanders 'who participated in the October 7 massacre'; medics said dozens were killed or missing after the overnight Israeli attack

Agence France-Presse
JERUSALEM

Israel's military said on Friday it had killed two commanders involved in Hamas's October 7, 2023 attack, pressing its north Gaza offensive a day after the International Criminal Court (ICC) issued arrest warrants over the war. Israel also carried out several strikes early Friday on Beirut's southern suburbs, where Hezbollah holds sway.

The ICC on Thursday said Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his former Defence Minister Yoav Gallant may bear "criminal responsibility" for the war crime of starvation as a method of warfare and other crimes against humanity against Palestinians in the besieged Gaza Strip. The Hague-based court's decision drew mixed reactions from world leaders, with some vowing to arrest the Israelis if they entered their country's territory.

Relentless attack: Palestinians search for casualties at the site of an Israeli strike on a house in Gaza on Friday. REUTERS

Other leaders, including U.S. President Joe Biden, have condemned the court's decision, which Mr. Netanyahu dismissed as "absurd" and "driven by anti-Semitic hatred of Israel".

On the ground in Gaza, the military said an air strike on the territory's north killed five Hamas militants, including two company commanders "who participated in the October 7 massacre" last year. Medics said dozens were killed or missing after an overnight Israeli raid on Beit Lahia and nearby Jabalia, which are among the targets of a sweeping Israeli assault on north Gaza.

Biden's support

Mr. Biden, in a statement responding to the ICC's arrest warrants, called them "outrageous", vowing to "always stand with Israel against threats to its security".

China, which like Israel and the U.S. is not a member of the ICC, urged the court to "uphold an objective and just position".

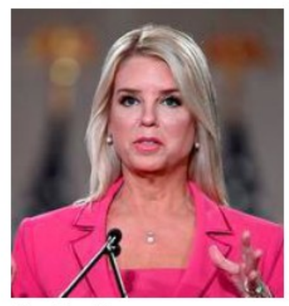
Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian said that Beijing "supports any efforts... that are conducive to achieving fairness and justice". The ICC also issued an arrest warrant for Hamas's military chief Mohammed Deif, accusing him of responsibility for war crimes and crimes against humanity over the attack on Israel that sparked the war, as well as "sexual and gender-based violence" against hostages.

Donald Trump picks Pam Bondi as Attorney General

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

President-elect Donald Trump said on Thursday he will nominate former Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi to lead the Justice Department, turning to a long-time ally after his first choice, Matt Gaetz, withdrew his name from consideration amid scrutiny over sex trafficking allegations.

Ms. Bondi has been an outspoken defender of Mr. Trump. She was one of his lawyers during his first impeachment trial, when he was accused – but not convicted – of abusing his power as he tried to condition U.S. military assistance to Ukraine on that country investigating then-former Vice President Joe Biden. And she was among a group of Republicans who showed up to support Mr. Trump at his New York hush money criminal trial that ended in May with a conviction on 34 felony counts.



Pam Bondi

'Intended purpose'

"For too long, the partisan Department of Justice has been weaponised against me and other Republicans - Not anymore," Mr. Trump said in a social media post. "Pam will refocus the DOJ to its intended purpose of fighting Crime, and Making America Safe Again."

Mr. Gaetz stepped aside amid continued fallout over a federal sex trafficking investigation that cast doubt on his ability to be confirmed as the nation's chief federal law enforcement officer.

The hasty withdrawal by Mr. Gaetz and quick pivot to Ms. Bondi were the latest examples of Mr. Trump's tumultuous decision-making as he rushes out nominations at a breakneck pace without the government vetting that is typical of presidential transitions.

It is an omen that despite running his most organised campaign for the White House this year, his return to the Oval Office might feature the same sort of drama that permeated his first term.

Ten killed in attack on Sufi shrine in Afghanistan: Ministry

Agence France-Presse
KABUL

Ten people were killed when a gunman opened fire on a Sufi shrine in Afghanistan's northern Baghlan province, an Interior Ministry spokesperson said on Friday.

"A man fired on Sufis taking part in a weekly ritual at a shrine in a remote area of Nahrin district, killing 10 people," the Ministry's Abdul Matin Qani said.

A Nahrin resident, who knew victims of the attack, said that worshippers had gathered at the Sayed Pacha Agha shrine on Thursday evening. They had begun a Sufi chant when "a man shot at the dozen worshippers", he said on condition of anonymity.

Attacks regularly target Sufis during rituals or gatherings in Afghanistan, a country with a very large Muslim majority but where the Taliban authorities impose a strict interpretation of Islamic law, which is different from Sufism.

Iran to launch 'advanced centrifuges' in response to UN nuclear watchdog censure

Agence France-Presse
TEHRAN

Iran said on Friday it would launch a series of "new and advanced" centrifuges in response to a resolution adopted by the UN nuclear watchdog that censures Tehran for what the agency called lack of cooperation.

The censure motion brought by Britain, France, Germany, and the United States at the 35-nation board of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) follows a similar one in June.

Behrouz Kamalvandi

It came as tensions run high over Iran's atomic programme, with critics fearing that Tehran is attempting to develop a nuclear weapon – a claim the Islamic Republic has repeatedly denied. The resolution – which China, Russia and Burkina Faso voted against – carried with 19 votes in favour, 12 abstentions and Venezuela not participating, two diplomats said.

"The head of the Atomic Energy Organisation of Iran issued an order to take effective measures, including launching a significant series of new and advanced centrifuges of various types," a joint statement by the organisation and Iran's Foreign Ministry said.

Centrifuges are the machines that enrich uranium transformed into gas by rotating it at very high speed, increasing the proportion of fissile isotope material (U-235).

"At the same time, technical and safeguards cooperation with the IAEA will continue, as in the past" and within the framework of agreements made by Iran, the joint Iranian statement added.

Behrouz Kamalvandi, Iran's atomic energy organisation spokesperson, on Friday said the new measures are mostly related to uranium enrichment.

Trump gets nod to seek dismissal of hush money case

Reuters
NEW YORK

A New York judge on Friday granted Donald Trump permission to seek dismissal of the criminal case in which he was convicted in May of 34 felony counts involving hush money paid to an adult star in light of his victory in the November 5 U.S. presidential election.

New York State Supreme Court Justice Juan Merchan formally delayed the sentencing of Mr. Trump, which had been scheduled to take place next Tuesday.

Justice Merchan set a December 2 deadline for Mr. Trump to file his motion to dismiss, and gave prosecutors until December 9 to respond.

The judge did not set a new date for sentencing or indicate how long proceedings would remain on hold.

Justice Merchan also did not indicate when he would rule on Mr. Trump's motion to dismiss.

Sport

Verstappen has stood head and shoulders above the rest this season, says Karun

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

The 2024 Formula One season enters the home stretch with the three remaining races to be run consecutively, starting in Las Vegas this weekend. The drivers' and constructors' crowns are still up for grabs.

Former F1 driver and TV pundit Karun Chandhok praised reigning champion Max Verstappen's consistency as he inches close to a fourth successive title. The Dutchman, who leads McLaren's Lando Norris by 62 points, will feel he has one hand on the trophy as just 86 points are left to play for.

"I think Max has stood head and shoulders above the rest. We've had 21 weekends so far and he's been consistently the best driver... that's why he's leading the championship," said Karun to *The Hindu* recently.

The former Indian racer added that despite Red Bull's dip in form, driver Verstappen has steered it ahead in the battle against Norris. Karun also pointed out the gulf between the three-time champion and teammate Sergio Perez to highlight this point.

"If you look at where Perez is in the championship, he's so far behind (393 to 151)... that's a huge gap. Red Bull has really depended on Max's talent and ability to get it over the line this year."

Roller-coaster: Verstappen and Red Bull must be wondering what went wrong after a sizzling start to the campaign. AP

Karun also termed Red Bull's slump, after winning seven of the first 10 races, as the key reason for the season becoming interesting. "We had races in the middle of the year where Max was finding it tough to qualify in the top four. McLaren was strong last year and is stronger this time. It's been really surprising how much Red Bull has dropped away," he said.

Though Verstappen is the overwhelming favourite, the constructors' battle is set to go down to the wire. McLaren (593) leads Ferrari (557) by 36 points while Red Bull (544) is not far behind. Though lying second, the Prancing Horse has had a strong last few races and reduced the deficit, but Karun backed McLaren to clinch its first team honours since 1998.

(FanCode is the official broadcaster of F1 in India).

It's Jersey King vs. Ascoval

BENGALURU: Jersey King and Ascoval may fight out the finish of the Bangalore Turf Club Trophy (1,200m), the main event of the races to be held here on Saturday (Nov. 23). False rails (width about 8m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1 BEGINNERS PLATE (1,100m), maiden 2-y-o only, (Terms), 1-30 p.m.: 1. Lightning Blitz (6) M. Prabhakaran 56, 2. Striking Viking (3) Rayan 56, 3. Devate (4) Sandesh 54.5, 4. Gloriousness (1) Suraj 54.5, 5. Higgs Boson (2) M. Rajesh K 54.5 and 6. See The Light (5) Trevor 54.5.
1. GLORIOUSNESS, 2. SEE THE LIGHT

2 SHIVANASAMUDRA FALLS PLATE (DIV. III), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 2-00: 1. Power Of Beauty (4) Arvind K 60, 2. Lords Grace (7) Chethan K 58, 3. Felisa (9) L.A. Rozario 57.5, 4. Martha (6) S. Shareef 57, 5. Raffles (10) Tousif 57, 6. Royal Whisper (12) Dhanu S 56.5, 7. Star Symphony (2) M. Prabhakaran 56.5, 8. Striking Eyes (1) Shreyas S 56.5, 9. Double Vision (11) Jagadeesh 56, 10. Joyful Spirit (8) A. Ramu 56, 11. Makoto (5) M. Rajesh K 56 and 12. Sea Diamond (3) P. Surya 56.
1. MARTHA, 2. POWER OF BEAUTY, 3. FELISA

3 PHAR LAP PLATE (1,100m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 2-30: 1. El Asesino (4) Akshay K 57, 2. Small Dreams (5) Dhanu S 57, 3. Striking Fortune (8) Shreyas S 57, 4. Thutmose (1) Chethan K 57, 5. Days Date (3) L.A. Rozario 55.5, 6. Flash (9) Rayan 55.5, 7. Martino (2) Antony 55.5, 8. Mehra (7) R. Pradeep 55.5 and 9. Rocking Girl (6) Arshad 55.5.
1. EL ASESINO, 2. MARTINO, 3. MEHRA

4 SHIVANASAMUDRA FALLS PLATE (DIV. II), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 3-00: 1. Queen Of Kyiv (2) Suraj 60, 2. Millbrook (6) Jagadeesh 59, 3. Cat Whiskers (1) Rayan 58.5, 4. Monterio (10) S. Shareef 58, 5. Southernaristocrat (4) Arvind K 56.5, 6. Anchorage (11) P. Siddaraju 56, 7. Gallon Of My Love (-) (-) 56, 8. Sling Shot (8) Salman Khan 55.5, 9. Invincible (3) Kiran Rai 55, 10. Pettes Love (9) Dhanu S 55, 11. Gismo (12) P. Mani 54 and 12. Estefania (7) Saddam H 53.5.
1. QUEEN OF KYIV, 2. MONTERIO, 3. INVINCIBLE

5 V. VENUGOPAL NAIDU MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,600m), rated 40 to 65, 3-30: 1. Ranquelino (1) Akshay K 62.5, 2. Armory (4) Angad 59.5, 3. August (3) Antony 59, 4. Irish Rockstar (9) Dhanu S 58.5, 5. Stellar Gold (5) Rayan 58.5, 6. Bharat (11) Trevor 55.5, 7. All Attraction (7) P. Siddaraju 53.5, 8. Extraordinary (8) A. Ramu 53, 9. Regal Aristocracy (6) Sandesh 52.5, 10. Krystallos (2) G. Vivek 52, 11. Lex Luthor (12) Shreyas S 52, 12. Ring Master (10) L.A. Rozario 52.
1. AUGUST, 2. RANQUELINO, 3. BHARAT

6 BANGALORE TURF CLUB TROPHY (1,200m), 3-y-o & over, (Terms), 4-00: 1. Yukan (1) Akshay K 60, 2. Aldgate (3) Antony 59.5, 3. Ascoval (4) Trevor 58.5 and 4. Jersey King (2) Suraj 54.5.
1. JERSEY KING 2. ASCOVAL

7 SMARTY JONES PLATE (1,200m), rated 60 to 85, 4-30: 1. The Perfect Choice (3) R. Pradeep 60, 2. Tripitaka (2) L.A. Rozario 58.5, 3. Vivaldo (4) Akshay K 56, 4. Never Give In (6) Antony 54, 5. Southern Force (7) Mukesh K 53.5, 6. Stellantis (5) Trevor 53.5 and 7. Auspicious Queen (1) Angad 50.5.
1. VIVALDO, 2. NEVER GIVE IN

8 SHIVANASAMUDRA FALLS PLATE (DIV. I), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 5-00: 1. Connecting Dots (8) Shreyas S 62.5, 2. Bestidentification (9) A. Ramu 62, 3. Don Carlos (3) Trevor 61, 4. Knotty Patton (1) Asirvatham 61, 5. Mayne Magic (7) Antony 61, 6. Fast Response (2) Tousif 59, 7. Magical Bay (11) Akshay K 59, 8. Promiseofthefuture (5) L.A. Rozario 59, 9. Lockheed (12) R. Pradeep 58.5, 10. Step To Destiny (10) M. Naveen 57.5, 11. Super Kind (6) G. Praveen 57.5 and 12. The Strikingly (4) Ikram Ahmed 55.5.
1. LOCKHEED, 2. MAGICAL BAY, 3. PROMISEOFTHEFUTURE

Day's best: **VIVALDO**
Double: **EL ASESINO – AUGUST**
Jkt: 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8; Tr (i): 3, 4 and 5; (ii): 6, 7 and 8.

GOT HIM!

Third umpire's verdict justified, says Starc on Rahul's dismissal

AFP

K.L. Rahul did the initial hard yards but when he fell on 26 during India's first innings in the first Test against Australia, the proof of his edge seemed inconclusive. However, Starc felt the verdict was justified. "I thought it was just a regulation wicket. The footage showed that, which is why it was overturned (during the review)."

PEP TALK

Coach Gambhir's words prepared me for the tough battle: Nitish

GETTY IMAGES

Nitish Kumar recalled a chat he had with coach Gautam Gambhir in the lead-up to the first Test against Australia. "Our coach said you are playing for the country and in places like Perth there will be bounce, take it on your shoulder, on your body, it is like taking a bullet for your country. That really inspired me," he said.

MARCHING ON

Sinner on the double as Italy gets past Argentina, enters semifinal

GETTY IMAGES

World No. 1 Jannik Sinner triumphed in singles and doubles to help Davis Cup holder Italy beat Argentina 2-1 in Malaga on Thursday to reach the semifinals against Australia. Sinner trounced Sebastian Baez 6-2, 6-1 and then teamed up with Matteo Berrettini to beat Andres Molteni and Maximo Gonzalez 6-4, 7-5 to help Italy progress.

STRONG SHOW

Bhavani powers Yoddhas past Thalaivas; Dabang posts win

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

UP Yoddhas rode on Bhavani Rajput's masterclass to post an impressive 40-24 win over Tamil Thalaivas in a Pro Kabaddi League match at the Noida Indoor Stadium on Friday. Bhavani's Super 10 was the highlight of the Yoddhas' performance. In the other match, Dabang Delhi got the better of Jaipur Pink Panthers 35-21.

Bumrah rattles Australia after Indian batters come a cropper

The skipper's four-wicket burst, along with Siraj's spell and Harshit's strike, leaves Cummins' men in a precarious situation; Hazlewood and Starc shine as the visiting team is bowled out for 150; debutant Nitish top scores with 41

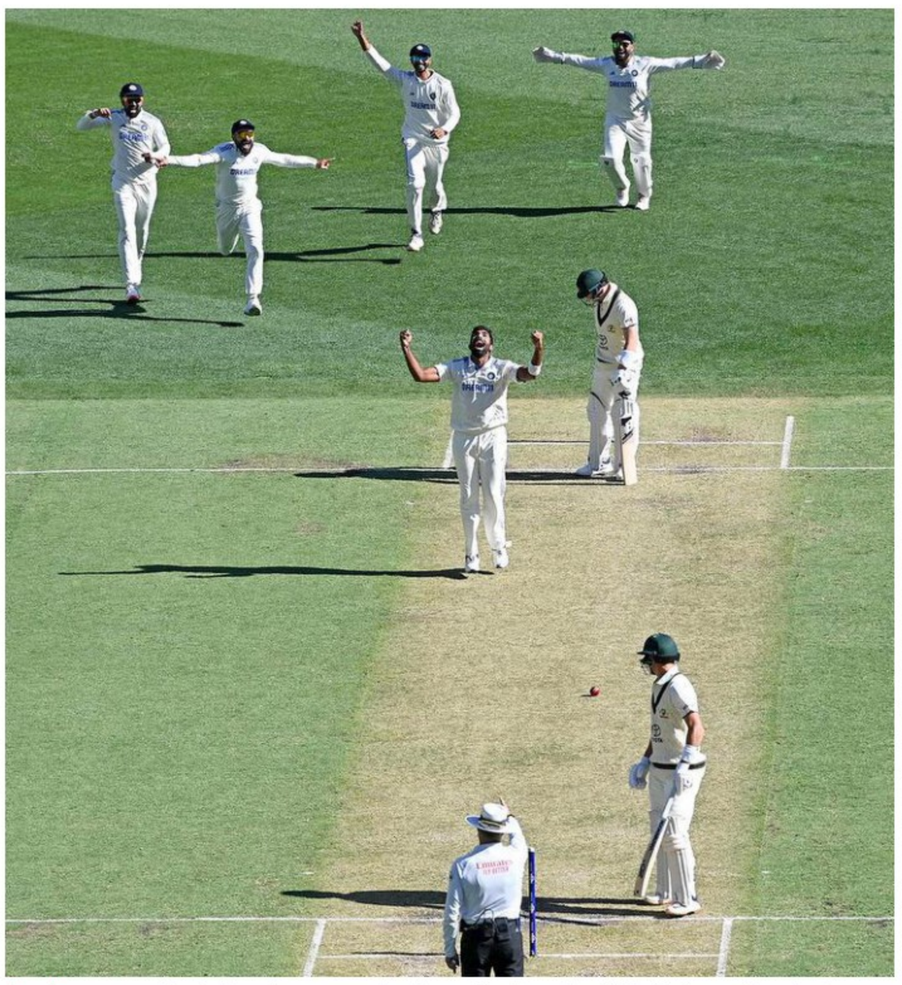
INDIA IN AUS

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
PERTH

Under azure blue skies in a city at ease with both the slow life and fast lanes, Australia and India were locked in a taut battle of attrition. The first Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy series commenced with hype and hope and as Friday ebbed, there were enough twists and turns to keep the fans engaged.

And at the first day's close, the host struggled at 67 for seven after restricting India to 150 in its first innings.

Australia's reply became a hoarse whisper as Jasprit Bumrah (four for 17) bowled like a man possessed, a trait he replicates in most contests. The Indian captain accounted for opener Nathan McSweeney and then drew an edge off Marnus Labuschagne which Virat Kohli dropped.



Roaring success: The Indian players are cock-a-hoop after Bumrah nails Smith for a golden duck. AFP

Incredible spell

The spearhead was not finished yet as he dismissed Usman Khawaja with Kohli making amends at second slip. The next ball cannoned into Steve Smith's pads and it was left to Travis Head to prevent the hattrick. Bumrah's first spell was an incredible 6-2-9-3.

Head tried to hustle but had no clue to debutant Harshit Rana's delivery that moved just a shade to disturb the stumps. The host, gasping at 31 for four, continued to hobble and as the shadows lengthened, wickets tumbled and for now India is ahead in the contest even as a second outing awaits both teams.

Before the host got wedged into the first innings skirmish, India dealt with an initial stutter, a late revival and a rapid deterioration.

Once Bumrah opted to bat on winning the toss, Mitchell Starc, was all left-arm menace, while Wasim Akram, the original purveyor, watched from the commentary box. The speedster's first delivery slithered down leg, instantly he corrected his radar and soon Yashasvi Jaiswal committed to the drive and edged.

At the other end, K.L. Rahul remained obdurate while Devdutt Padikkal fell to Josh Hazlewood and Kohli walked in to a round of warm applause. Meanwhile, Rahul found the ropes twice, but these were mere glimmers as Kohli failed to move his bat away in time as Hazlewood grazed the willow.

India's appetite for lunch further soured when Rahul played forward to Starc, Alex Carey found the ball easing into his gloves and the appeal was turned down by Richard Kettleborough.

Cummins sought a review, the replays without enough angles were not conclusive, and confusion lingered over a sound but third umpire Richard Illingworth issued the marching orders.

India finished the first session at 51 for four and the afternoon's rear-guard action rested on Rishabh Pant and debutant Nitish Reddy, especially after Dhruv Jurel and Washington Sundar succumbed to Mitchell Marsh. At 73 for six, India was grappling for a toehold and Pant lent a hand, wading into Nathan Lyon's off-breaks and scooping a six off Pat Cummins.

Nitish (41) was equally fluent as drives and reverse hits were essayed and a vital 48-run seventh-wicket partnership took shape. However, once Cummins dismissed Pant, the rest withered and the stage was set for Bumrah to unleash his sheer brilliance.

SCOREBOARD

INDIA — 1ST INNINGS

Yashasvi Jaiswal c McSweeney b Starc 0 *(8b)*, K.L. Rahul c Carey b Starc 26 *(74b, 3x4)*, Devdutt Padikkal c Carey b Hazlewood 0 *(23b)*, Virat Kohli c Khawaja b Hazlewood 5 *(12b)*, Rishabh Pant c Smith b Cummins 37 *(78b, 3x4, 1x6)*, Dhruv Jurel c Labuschagne b Marsh 11 *(20b, 2x4)*, Washington Sundar c Carey b Marsh 4 *(15b)*, Nitish Kumar c Khawaja b Cummins 41 *(59b, 6x4, 1x6)*, Harshit Rana c Labuschagne b Hazlewood 7 *(5b, 1x4)*, Jasprit Bumrah c Carey b Hazlewood 8 *(8b, 1x6)*, Mohammed Siraj (not out) 0 *(0b)*; Extras (b-4, lb-1, w-2, nb-4): 11; Total (in 49.4 overs): 150.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-5 (Jaiswal, 2.1 overs), 2-14 (Padikkal, 10.6), 3-32 (Kohli, 16.2), 4-47 (Rahul, 22.2), 5-59 (Jurel, 27.5), 6-73 (Washington, 31.4), 7-121 (Pant, 45.5), 8-128 (Harshit, 46.4), 9-144 (Bumrah, 48.6).

AUSTRALIA BOWLING

Starc 11-3-14-2, Hazlewood 13-5-29-4, Cummins 15.4-2-67-2, Lyon 5-1-23-0, Marsh 5-1-12-2.

AUSTRALIA — 1ST INNINGS

Usman Khawaja c Kohli b Bumrah 8 *(19b, 1x4)*, Nathan McSweeney lbw b Bumrah 10 *(13b, 2x4)*, Marnus Labuschagne lbw b Siraj 2 *(52b)*, Steve Smith lbw b Bumrah 0 *(1b)*, Travis Head b Harshit 11 *(13b, 2x4)*, Mitchell Marsh c Rahul b Siraj 6 *(19b, 1x4)*, Alex Carey (batting) 19 *(28b, 3x4)*, Pat Cummins c Pant b Bumrah 3 *(5b)*, Mitchell Starc (batting) 6 *(14b, 1x4)*; Extras (nb-2): 2; Total (for seven wkts. in 27 overs): 67.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-14 (McSweeney, 2.3), 2-19 (Khawaja, 6.4), 3-19 (Smith, 6.5), 4-31 (Head, 11.1), 5-38 (Marsh, 16.5), 6-47 (Labuschagne, 20.6), 7-59 (Cummins, 24.2).

INDIA BOWLING

Bumrah 10-3-17-4, Siraj 9-6-17-2, Harshit 8-1-33-1.

Toss: India.

I just went with my plans and Pant guided me: Nitish

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
PERTH

Taking centrestage: Though he was playing only in his first Test, Nitish proved he belonged to the big stage. GETTY IMAGES

On a day when 17 wickets fell at the Optus Stadium here on Friday, one man, striding in at No. 8, scored a 41.

Nitish Reddy could not have asked for a better Test debut as first-up his idol Virat Kohli handed him the national cap and then he held his own against Australian captain Pat Cummins, who is also his Sunrisers Hyderabad skipper in the IPL.

Asked about the specific moment when he got his Test cap, Nitish said: "It was a great feeling. I always dreamt of playing for India and it was fantastic to receive the cap from Virat Kohli, who has been my idol since I started playing cricket."

And about his 41, Nitish added: "I just went with my plans... my partner Rishabh (Pant) is an attacking batter, and he was guiding me all the time. There was not much drift for (Nathan) Lyon and I decided to get some quick runs and help the team move ahead."

A seamer himself, Nitish did not get a chance to bowl on the opening day of the first Test against Australia but he felt inspired by the spells of Jasprit Bumrah and company: "Obviously the wicket is helping a lot and so we don't need to do much to get the wickets. So we kept the discipline and eventually wickets came our way. At the break we were discussing about discipline in bowling. So that's what I guess Bumrah, (Mohammed) Siraj and Harshit (Rana) have done."

On match-eve, Nitish had a quiet dinner with fellow debutant Harshit: "We knew about our selection and we just decided to be calm and not get too excited." Acutely self-aware, Nitesh signed off: "This was a good start but it was not a dream innings. Need to continue like this."

Starc lauds Bumrah, says he has been fantastic across formats

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
PERTH

Bowling 11 overs, and then remaining unbeaten with the bat at close of the first day's play in the first Test, Mitchell Starc would have been excused if he wanted to rest his sore feet. However, the Australian spearhead quickly landed at the media conference hall inside the Optus Stadium's basement and answered a range of questions here on Friday.

The pitch: There was a fair bit of good bowling today. Obviously there was enough in the wicket and probably felt it was a hardball pitch. If you can get through the testing period, it does get slightly easier. The outfield is probably the slowest we have seen for a long time.

The Bumrah magic: He has obviously got a fair bit of upper extension in that elbow and does things a lot of actions won't let you do. There is no surprise that he has been a fantastic bowler across formats. There is something in that release point that's significant. It's something a lot of people can't do. I am certainly not going to try it. I will probably snap.

The 83-run deficit: It is business as usual and we will come out tomorrow and try and get as close to their total as we can.

On Harshit Rana: I have played the IPL with him so I kind of know what he has got. It was obviously a good day to be a fast bowler. This game is very much in fast-forward.

IPL 2025 from March 14; summit clash on May 25

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The 2025 edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL) will be held from March 14 to May 25, the BCCI has informed the franchises while also setting aside similar widows for the event's 2026 and 2027 chapters in an uncharacteristically elaborate plan.

Archer in the fray

The BCCI has also decided to include England pacer Jofra Archer, USA seamer Saurabh Netravalkar and Mumbai wicketkeeper-batter Hardik Tamore in the mega players' auction at Jeddah on Sunday and Monday (Nov. 24 and 25).

In its communication to the franchises, the Board has stated that the dates for the next three seasons are being shared at once to "assist the franchises in planning for the players' auction."

The 2026 edition of the tournament will start on March 15 and the grand finale has been scheduled for May 31.

The 2027 edition will once again start on March 14 with the final on May 30. All three finals will be held on Sundays.

There are a lot of very interesting plots to Gukesh-Ding World championship match

I am excited about the World chess championship match between Ding Liren and D. Gukesh in Singapore from November 25. It has a lot of very interesting plots to it.

It is the first all-Asian title match in World championship history. I believe that a rivalry between India and China will be fascinating to watch. And this is a historic match, as Gukesh is the world's youngest challenger of all time.

Now, at the age of 18, he also has the possibility of becoming the youngest World champion. And I think the location in Singapore is also fantastic. It shows the heightened global interest in chess.

I expect a tough struggle every day in the 14-game match. The participants will be probing each other for weaknesses right through. They both have combative styles. Gukesh is very aggressive while Ding can be a bit more positional, though he is also capable of mixing up the struggle as he showed in his World title match last year against Ian Nepomniachtchi; he had also displayed great resilience in coming back from setbacks several times.

STUDY-SERVE-SMILE
VELAMMAL NEXUS
VELAMMAL VIDYALAYA | VELAMMAL MATRIC. HR. SEC. SCHOOL
VELAMMAL ACADEMY | VRIDS

Gukesh has had a much better year. His performance was phenomenal on the top board for India in the Budapest Chess Olympiad. Ding has, of course, been in a crisis for a while, and I think this year he was trying to snap out of it, but just hasn't managed. Having said that, the World championship is quite famous for people who have been in red-hot form in other events but then not being able to generate the same dynamic in the actual match.

Gukesh will have to fight for every point. He should be confident with his play, but should not expect that the resistance will be lower. Ding will have a chance to motivate himself, and he showed in his match against Nepomniachtchi that he is quite tenacious. So I don't think that the past results are themselves very indicative of anything.

Whether Ding will be able to recover from the slump in form he has had is one of the question marks here. He might try to settle in early in the match. I think it may be more appropriate for him to start fighting from Game 1 because of the short runway to get into the match.

INBRIEF

Satwik-Chirag pair enters semifinals, Lakshya exits

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty beat Kim Astrup and Anders Skaarup Rasmussen of Denmark 21-16, 21-19 to enter the semifinals of the China Masters Super 750 badminton tournament in Shenzhen on Friday. Lakshya Sen crashed out of men's singles, losing to third seed Anders Antonsen of Denmark 18-21, 15-21.

National tenpin bowling in Bengaluru from today

A total of 142 bowlers, including 26 women, will compete in the ARC 33rd National tenpin bowling championships that commences in Bengaluru on Saturday. The eight-day tournament offers a total prize money of ₹9 lakh. Defending champion R. Kishan, Shabbir Dhankot (Tamil Nadu) and Dhruv Sarda (Delhi) are the top men's contenders.

LIVE TELECAST

Badminton: China Masters, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & JioCinema, 7.30 a.m.

Australia vs India: 1st Test, day 2, Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.50 a.m.

Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy: JioCinema App, 9 a.m.

Formula One: Las Vegas GP (Qualifying), F1 TV, F1 TV Pro App & FanCode, 11.30 a.m.

ISL: Sports 18-3 & JioCinema, 5 & 7.30 p.m.

Tennis: Davis Cup finals, Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 5.30 p.m.

Premier League: SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 6, 8.30 & 11 p.m.

LaLiga: gxr.world, 6.30, 8.45, 11 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Sunday)

Serie A: gxr.world, 7.30, 10.30 p.m. & 1.15 a.m. (Sunday)

West Indies vs Bangladesh: 1st Test, day 2, FanCode, 7.30 p.m.

Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 8 & 11 p.m.

PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 8 p.m.

Stage set for Mushtaq Ali Trophy T20 tournament

Shami and Hardik will be keen to make an impact; the former will lead Bengal's challenge as he looks to enhance his match fitness while the latter will be eager to pull strings for Baroda

CRICKET

Vivek Krishnan
INDORE

Star power: Hardik will be the main attraction in the domestic T20 competition. FILE PHOTO: AFP

At the best of times, domestic cricket struggles to attract eyeballs. With India's marquee Test tour of Australia having begun in Perth and the IPL mega auction to take place in Jeddah on November 24 and 25, the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy is likely to fade into insignificance when it begins on Saturday. The domestic T20 competition features 38 teams divided into five groups, and will be held across six centres – Rajkot, Indore, Mumbai, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram and Hyderabad. Punjab, which is in Group A, is the defending champion.

The timing of the T20 tournament isn't ideal, given that it begins just a day before the IPL auction. In recent years, the competition has usually finished before the bidding wars take centrestage, serving as a platform for IPL franchises to scout young talent. But with the BCCI beginning the 2024-25 domestic season by staging the first five rounds of the Ranji Trophy, primarily to avoid First Class matches in the north being disrupted by fog and bad light in harsh winter, the domestic T20 tournament won't have the same relevance this time around.

It is a bit of a disservice to the young players looking to get a taste of the IPL, because noteworthy performances for their respective states in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy will come a little too late in regards to fetching a bid for the next edition of the cash-rich league. But they will have to do their bit and hope for a backdoor entry perhaps as an injury replacement in the IPL.

Shami, Hardik in focus

The domestic tournament also features a few senior pros with their own targets to tick. Pacer Mohammed Shami is part of the Bengal squad as he looks to enhance his match fitness before potentially joining the India Test squad in Australia. Hardik Pandya, who is set to turn out for Baroda, will hope to play the entire tournament and make an all-round impact, having recently lost out to Suryakumar Yadav for the post of India T20 captain because of persisting concerns over his fitness. Ishant Sharma, in the twilight of his decorated career, has made himself available for Delhi.

FIRST ROUND FIXTURES

Group-A: Rajkot: Hyderabad vs Meghalaya (9 a.m.), Madhya Pradesh vs Mizoram (11 a.m.), Bihar vs Rajasthan (1.30 p.m.), Bengal vs Punjab (4.30 p.m.).
Group-B: Indore: Saurashtra vs Sikkim (9 a.m.), Tamil Nadu vs Tripura (11 a.m.), Karnataka vs Uttarakhand (1.30 p.m.), Baroda vs Gujarat (4.30 p.m.).
Group-C: Mumbai: Arunachal Pradesh vs Himachal Pradesh (9 a.m.), Haryana vs Manipur (11 a.m.), Jammu & Kashmir vs Jharkhand (1.30 p.m.), Delhi vs Uttar Pradesh (4.30 p.m.).
Group-D: Visakhapatnam: Chandigarh vs Pondicherry (11 a.m.), Vidarbha vs Odisha (4.30 p.m.); **Vizianagaram:** Assam vs Railways (11 a.m.).
Group-E: Hyderabad: Goa vs Mumbai (11 a.m.), Maharashtra vs Nagaland (11 a.m.), Kerala vs Services (4.30 p.m.).

Karnataka starts campaign against Uttarakhand

Vivek Krishnan
INDORE

Mayank.
FILE PHOTO: SUDHAKARA JAIN

The Pandya brothers are part of Baroda's camp. The likes of M. Shahrukh Khan, B. Sai Sudharsan and Varun Chakravarthy are helming Tamil Nadu's campaign. Axar Patel and Ravi Bishnoi will hope to sparkle for Gujarat. Karnataka is banking on the experience of Mayank Agarwal and Manish Pandey. Saurashtra is always there or thereabouts when it comes to the business end of domestic competitions.

In essence, many intriguing battles should be in store in Group B of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy over the next two weeks. The matches in this group, which features eight teams, will be held across two venues in Indore – the Holkar Stadium and Emerald Heights International School ground.

The other teams in this group are Uttarakhand, Tripura and Sikkim. Though these are relatively lightweight on paper, the fickle nature of the T20 format allows for some unexpected results.

Tamil Nadu begins its campaign on Saturday morning with a clash against Tripura at the Holkar Stadium. Later at the same venue, Baroda, led by Krunal Pandya, will take on Axar's Gujarat. Karnataka's opening game is versus Uttarakhand at the Emerald Heights International School ground.

For Shahrukh Khan, who is leading Tamil Nadu for the first time, this is an opportunity to showcase another dimension as a cricketer. Asked whether adjusting to the shortest format after playing in the Ranji Trophy till a week ago was somewhat of a challenge for domestic players, Shahrukh said: "Everybody has played enough white-ball cricket in this team. Shifting from white ball to red ball is a lot tougher than the other way around. Everyone understands what they need to do in preparation."

The 29-year-old didn't want to get drawn into assessing his team's chances of going the distance. "It is more about how you can manage phases of the game as players. If you think about winning the trophy even before the tournament, you are not going to perform to the best of your ability," he said.

India loses to Qatar in Asia Cup qualifier

K. Keerthivasan
CHENNAI

High-flier: Pranav shone for India with 13 points.

Displaying excellent defence in the third and fourth quarters, Qatar outplayed India 69-53 in the second window of the FIBA Asia Cup Qualifiers at the Nehru Indoor Stadium here on Friday. With the defeat, India's chances of qualifying for the finals diminished further. India will next take on Kazakhstan here on Monday. On the other hand, Qatar, which scripted its first win in three matches, will challenge Iran at home on Monday.

With a nearly-packed stadium, India started well with regular three-pointers from its captain and point guard Muin Bek. In the first two quarters, India ran Qatar close, thanks largely to its skipper. He scored two three-pointers in the first quarter and three in the second. Forward Pranav Prince played his part scoring quite well, but like Muin Bek, he too, failed in the last two quarters.

India's head coach Scott Flemming said: "Our strength is three-point shooting. And we struggled tonight... We started off well. That's the way we can beat teams that are more athletic and bigger than us."

Qatar's head coach Hakan Demir said his team played a solid defensive game, which was the key to its victory. "This was totally a defensive game and we are happy that we kept the Indian team at 53 points."

The result: India 53 (Munin Bek 17, Pranav 13) lost to Qatar 69 (James Tyler 17, Mike Lewis 17, Babacar Dieng 13).

KARNATAKA ROUND-UP

Dheeraj bowls Karnataka to victory

Captain Dheeraj Gowda (5/31) powered Karnataka past Chandigarh despite being forced to follow on in its Cooch Behar Trophy under-19 match at Chandigarh.

The scores: Chandigarh 272 and 97 in 36.1 overs (E. Salaria 36, Aksh Rana 26, Dheeraj Gowda 5/31) lost to Karnataka 99 and 323 in 71.5 overs (M. Shivanand 65, S. Akhil 26, Dheeraj Gowda 75, K.P. Karthikeya 41, Hardik Raj 44, M. Panchal 5/59).

Chappell enters the last four

KALABURAGI: American Nick Chappell took out Karan Singh 7-5, 6-2 in the singles quarterfinals of the ITF Kalaburagi Open tennis tournament at Kalaburagi. Chappell will take on second-seeded Bogdan Bobrov in the semifinal of the $25,000 event. Bobrov scored a hard-fought 7-5, 6-3 win over Aryan Shah.

The results: Singles (Quarterfinals): Nick Chappell (USA) bt Karan Singh 7-5, 6-2; Dev Javia bt Sidharth Rawat 1-0 (retd.); Bogdan Bobrov (Rus) bt Aryan Shah 7-5, 6-3; Khumoyun Sultanov (Uzb) bt Maxim Zhukov (Rus) 6-2, 6-3.

Doubles (Semifinals): Egor Agafonov & Bogdan Bobrov (Rus) bt Siddhant Banthia & Vishnu Vardhan 2-6, 6-3, 11-9; Nick Chappell (USA) & Nitin Kumar Sinha bt Rishab Agarwal & Kabir Hans 6-2, 6-3.

Moving ahead: Chappell put it past Karan in straight sets.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Anargya triumphs

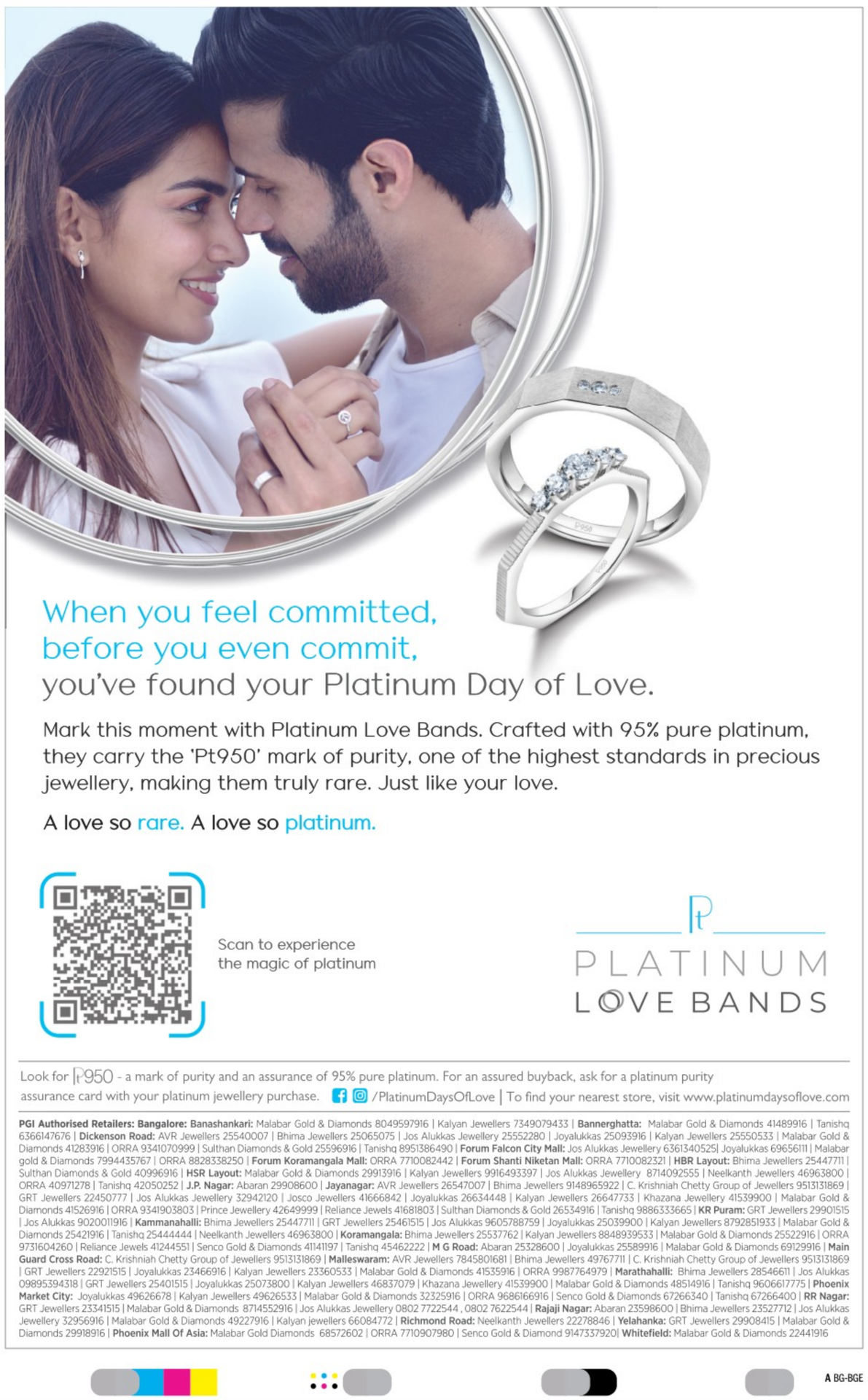
BENGALURU: Anargya Manjunath beat Trupti Purohit 3-11, 9-11, 11-6, 11-8, 11-7, 11-9 in the final to win the women's singles event in the C.V.L. Shastry memorial State table tennis championship organised by Canara Union.

Anargya.

Lalrindika nets Inter Kashi's winner

Edmund Lalrindika's 72nd minute goal helped Inter Kashi defeat Sporting Club Bengaluru 1-0 in their opening I-League encounter at Naihati on Friday.

Advani shows his class

Pankaj Advani made a break of 317 in his win over Arjun Mehta in the G. Raman Nair handicap billiards tournament held at East Cultural Association here.

The results (handicap in brackets): Pankaj Advani (-750) bt Arjun Mehta (-250) 100-8; Rishab Thakkar (-350) bt Shrikrishna (-600) 100-0 (-474); Sasha Sammbi (-250) bt Siddharth Parikh (-600) 100-0 (-475); M.L. Lakshman (-350) bt Dhvaj Haria (-600): 100-0 (-572); Vishal Madan (-350) bt Sheikh Najeeb (-175) 100-53; Rupesh Shah (-500) bt Subramaniam (-300): 100-0 (-271).